

SPECIAL EDITION

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ILLUSTRATED

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E. B. THOMPSON

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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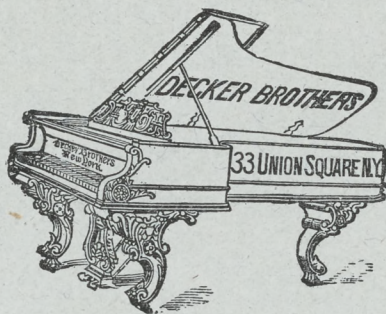
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# The Washington Press

## SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED EDITION

IRVINGTON, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA. 1898.

### OUR SPECIAL EDITION.

THIS illustrated special edition of THE WASHINGTON PRESS has been published for the purpose of making known to the outside world the value and diversity of the resources of Washington Township. In its pages will be found illustrations of our churches, homes, manufactories and business houses, showing to the stranger in a pictorial way, what they look like, thus giving an honest representation of things as they are, and not what they might be. A liberal amount of data of the early history of our township is given, thus showing what a prominent part this section cut in the pioneer days. The early history of California is centered in this township, as the first American people in the State, settled in Mission San Jose in May 1827. It would be impossible to give an extended account of all who settled early in this section, as the limited space in this edition will not allow. It has been our aim to help contribute our mite to the upbuilding of all enterprises in the township, and we hope and trust that our efforts will please our patrons and be a source of pleasure to those who receive a copy, and are unacquainted with this section of God's own country.

It has been our aim to present facts in all cases, and to that end, we secured the services of the best writers in this section, to contribute articles of value to those seeking new homes. There is fine land and plenty of it within the bounds of Washington township, which on account of its richness, will grow most bounteously almost everything that can be grown in Mother Earth.

To treat fully upon the diversified interests would be to publish a volume of many pages, and entail a cost far beyond the resources at our command.

If this edition of the PRESS but calls the attention of the home-seeker to the garden spot of Alameda county, we will be content; for a subsequent inspection of our homes, schools, churches, soil, climate, etc., will convince the most skeptical, of the fact, that they have found the ideal home place of the Pacific Coast, and one in which they can rear their children, giving to them the best of school and church facilities. In the preparation of this edition we have endeavored to give each town in the township - equal representation - showing favors to none, but justice to one and all. It is issued in the interests of Washington township as a whole, and no one town in particular. It will be sent far from home, and the good thus derived may not be felt in the immediate future, but time will prove the good it will accomplish. If you have the welfare of your town at heart, you can do no better than send copies of this illustrated edition to distant relatives and friends.

### PIONEER DAYS IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

ONLY brief glimpses, and a rapid historical review of the past are possible in the necessarily limited space at my disposal. Washington Township was the first portion of what is now called Alameda County, to be settled by Americans; long before that, it had been the home of prominent Spanish families. A complete history of the township would make a large and costly volume.

When the Americans came, Don J. J. Vallejo owned the rancho Arroyo del Alameda, was administrator of the Mission lands, and lived in an adobe in Mission San Jose; Fulgencio and Valentine Higuerra lived on the Rancho del Agua Caliente (Warm Springs); another Higuerra held the Los Tularcitos Ranch (now Mr. Curtner's); Augustin Alviso held a vast tract between Newark and Alvarado, the Potrero de Los Cerritos, of three square leagues.

Some of the first American settlers of note came to California on the famous ship Brooklyn, in 1846, among whom were John M. Horner, Earl Marshall, Simeon Stivers and Timothy Rix, and in 1847 some of these made homes in Washington Township, as did also Perry Morrison and William Morrison. In 1848 everyone was interested in the mines, and few, if any came to the Mission San Jose.

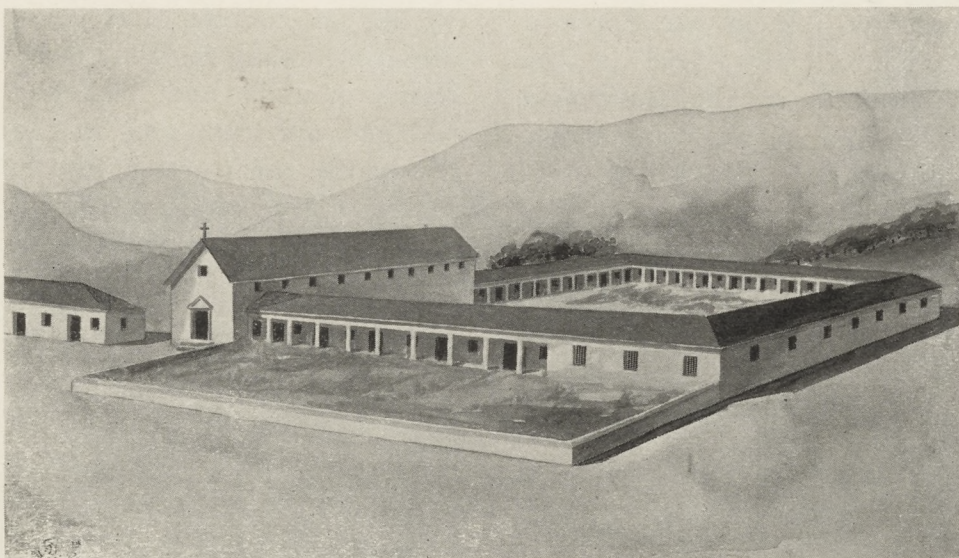
In 1849, among others, came that most interesting pioneer, E. L. Beard, followed by the late Henry Ellsworth. H. C. Smith, a most capable American, soon appointed by General Riley as Alcalde of the Mission, William Norris afterwards of Centreville, Jeremiah Fallon whom the Spanish remember be-

cause he cut down some fine sycamores in the streets of the Mission, M. Weeks, Wm. Abbey and Michael Murray also came in 1849.

In 1850, Origin Mowry settled on the Mowry farm, near the landing; the same year, William Tyson took up his land claim east and north east of the Lagoon. Among others of 1850 were Zach. Cheney, Capt. Bond, W. H. Chamberlain, Calvin Valpey, and John Neal who built the old adobe on the M. J. Overacker ranch. Still other pioneers of 1850 were Ephraim Dyer, James Hawley, Mr. Coombs, C. Henion, and Ed. Niehaus.

There was quite a rush to the rich farming lands in 1851. Wm. M. Liston took charge of a warehouse in Alvarado and built the third house there. Dr. Bucknell and Capt. Newell lived at Union City on the creek below Alvarado. Among others of prominence were Robert Blacow, Captain Trefry, Captain Marston, A. M. Church, J. J. Riser, George W. Patterson, and Joshua Wauhab.

In 1852, came Isaac M. Long, E. Munyon, Richard Threlfall, Nathaniel L. Babb, Howard and M. L. Overacker,



ORIGINAL CHURCH OF MISSION SAN JOSE.



Henry Curtner, D. L. Sanborn, William Barry, C. J. Stevens, Thomas W. Millard, George M. Walters, Peter J. Campbell, John T. Stevenson and Joseph Ralph. The following year among the many that settled in Washington Township were John Whipple, L. E. Osgood, John Blacow, F. B. Granger, James Emerson, E. Haley, John Proctor and J. W. Musser of Musser & McClure.

After 1852, the number of arrivals increased too rapidly for so brief a review as this to note even the more prominent of the pioneers. Few indeed are left of all who came in the early fifties and fewer still who remember the appearance of the valley in the "fall of '49 and the spring of '50", that most classic Californian date. No township in the State has had a more interesting group of pioneers and none would make a more fitting scene for a novel of California character and adventure in the days when the pleasure-loving, unambitious Spanish rancheros were losing their foothold, and the Americans were rushing into the valley, pitching tents, building brush huts, bargaining for mustangs, shooting wild cattle, fencing in land-claims, breaking up the ancient, hoof-beaten sod with Yankee plows. How many interesting and eccentric characters have lived in the valley! Among them were William Sim, the pioneer blacksmith; Ned Murray, the poet; Chas Kelsey, who once tied a chair on his harrow, so as to sit there and sow his potatoes broadcast; Captain C. C. Scott, who planted the great live oak on the Sanborn farm; Tom Scott, an early legislator, who lived in the old adobe, one end of which remains in the California Nursery Co's packing yards, — and many, many more, who still live in township traditions.



OLD VALLEJO FLOUR MILL — NILES.



MISSION PEAK — THE SENTINEL OF THE VALLEY.

But, turning still further backwards, in the old records, and leaving for a moment these sturdy pioneers, let us take a glance at Spanish explorations, at early settlements, and at the probable condition of the district when white men first came here.

It has been claimed that some members of the Portala expedition of 1769 were in the "Valle de la San Jose", but this is highly improbable. The first authentic Spanish visit was that of Commandant Fages in April 1772, who, first marching from Monterey to Santa Clara, then going north along the east shore of the Bay, camped one night on the Alameda Creek, near the present site of Niles. He was amazed at the numbers

of elk, deer and bears feeding in the valley on each side of the stream. Captain Juan Bautista, in 1773, taking much the same course as that of Fages, shot three immense elk, whose horns were eight feet from tip to tip. The Moraga expedition a few years later, described by Father Palou, started from San Pablo, went south to Alameda Creek, and following the Niles Cañon, crossed at last to the San Joaquin, which river was then named Moraga. When Don Diego de Borcia became Governor of Alta California (in 1794) he sent out an expedition under Don Pedro de Allerni, to study and report upon the natural resources of various districts, and the regions around the Alameda and Mission creeks were carefully examined.

Little by little, the Spanish soldiers and Mission fathers explored and took possession of the country. On June 11th, 1797, Padres Lemen, Barcenilla and Merino planted a great wooden cross, and thus began the Mission de San Jose. They rang a bell and the Indians assembled from many a village; they sang the litanies of the saints, celebrated mass, preached to the soldiers and the Indians, and closed with the Te Deum.

According to the Indian traditions, two tribes dwelt in this region before the Spanish came; one occupied the bay shore, from Warm Springs to Alvarado; the other, though touching the bay at Alviso, dwelt chiefly in the foothills and near the eastern edge of the valley. Sometimes they were united against other tribes; sometimes they were at war with each other. Indian burial mounds and "kitchen middens" or remains of villages, are numerous in the township. One is on Mr. Munyan's farm, near his house; another is on the Wm. Haley place, and some are near Alvarado. When the Spanish came, a large Indian village stood on the Mosher



ORANGE ORCHARD — H. A. MAYHEW, NILES.

farm on the road from Niles to the Mission; another was on Judge Tilden's place, near the Lagoon, and a third was on the plateau of the Clark place, at the mouth of Niles Cañon. The sites of about a dozen villages have been located by antiquarians.

Possibly the region was at one time more thickly settled than when the Spanish came, but it never sustained a large Indian population.

Between 1802 and 1822 the Padres at the Mission San Jose baptized 4573 Indians. But in those twenty years 2933 Indians died, and in 1822 the Mission had 1620 remaining, including the old converts of the five first years from 1797 to 1802. Evidently many had returned to the freedom of a sav-



age life. In respect to numbers, however, the place in 1822 ranked third among the California Missions, and in 1834, when it had 2300 Indians, it still maintained its rank, being surpassed only by San Diego and San Luis Rey. Then the Missions were secularized, and the system fell so rapidly into ruins that six years later only 400 Indians could be found at the Mission San Jose.

Two of the most interesting things about "old Washington township" are: (1) the extent to which the horticultural history of California had its beginnings here and (2) the way in which for a time it dominated the rest of the country. Its horticulture began in and about the Mission, where grand old olive and pear trees still remain. Some of these are more than six feet in girth of trunk and were planted before the beginning of this century. Some grape vines of the same age are growing on the hillside. The once famous fig trees, larger than any others in California, have been cut down. Long before the discovery of gold, these Mission gardens were known to travellers, and General Sutter used to send here yearly for his grapes, pears and other fruits. When Americans came they almost immediately began to plant nurseries and establish orchards. They brought trees from the east for stock of new varieties, and they used

in moss and charcoal, they were carried on mule-back across the Isthmus of Panama. The late Captain Bond had some of these trees, and planted them on his place in Centreville. Some of them were bought by George A. Lloyd, who had a land claim near Centreville, afterwards Mrs. Randalls (where the Todd garden was), and now Mrs. Lowrie's. Simeon Stivers, who came to California with Earl Marshall and be-

came his heir, planted some of them, some were planted by the late William Sim, on his land claim, now the Shinn farm, and some by the late Jos. Nichols, Sr. These early fruit trees paid for themselves several times over when they began to bear. The same year the late E. L. Beard, at the Mission received through Dr. Whitney a stock of fruit trees from New York, brought across the plains, and watered on the way.

But long before 1853, the choice garden land of Washington had made fortunes for men. Potatoes in the spring of 1850 were selling for fourteen cents a pound in San Francisco, and some of the early settlers had quite a crop to sell at that price. The following year the Beards and Horners had about a thousand acres in potatoes. According to Mr. E. Niehaus, the profits were \$160,000. Three quarters of an acre of tomatoes sold for \$10,000, cabbages brought \$1.50 apiece. Mr.



"THE PALM" — IRVINGTON.



ENTRANCE TO CELLARS OF LINDA VISTA.

the Spanish irrigation ditches. Cuttings from the Mission olives and vineyards were rooted by the thousand and sent into every mining town. One year old fruit trees sold for five dollars apiece.

The late Earl Marshall, who came to California in 1846 and settled in Washington Township in 1847, obtained in 1853 some 300 grafted fruit trees from New Jersey. Packed

Niehaus was made a present of the potatoes left in the field after it had been dug over once, and secured a hundred sacks which he sold for \$1500. By 1852, the potato crop of the valley was so great that hundreds of acres were left undug, or the potatoes left to rot in piles on the wharf. The age of wheat followed, and other fortunes were made and lost. Then came an era of diversified agriculture and the develop-



ment of fruit interests so familiar and yet so remarkable a story.

Turning to political history, let me remind my readers that Santa Clara County as created by the first California legislature, extended north to Alameda Creek, then to the boundary between Santa Clara and Contra Costa. When Alameda County was created, nearly all of Washington and a considerable portion of Murray townships came from Santa



RESIDENCE - H. CROWELL - IRVINGTON.

Clara. Otherwise we should probably have had an Alameda Valley as well as the creek and the Encinal of the same name; but the valley is still Santa Clara except in the memory of a few pioneers. The original Washington township, however, extended to the Guadalupe river, at the very edge of San Jose, and it is easy to see how much more weight in county affairs Washington would have made if the line were still at the Guadalupe.

Nearly all of the American settlers of the region, and indeed of the county, found their way to the Mission and then "branched out" in various ways as opportunity offered. Alcalde Smith was here—the only officer of justice anywhere between San Jose and Martinez. It was a great outfitting point for the mines, as much travel went through the Stockton Pass. Along the bay shore was the famous old landings, or embarcaderos, now Jarvis's, Mowry's, Peacock's, etc. but then known as Larkin's, as the Russian, on Beard's Slough, as Hedberg's, as New Haven (soon Union City) and others



RESIDENCE - S. SALZ - CENTREVILLE.

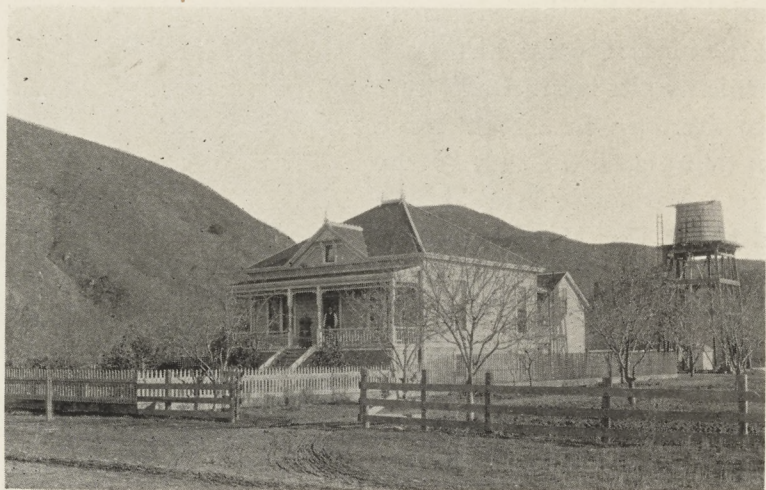
of still earlier fame used by the Spanish rancheros.

The first county election in the county of Alameda was held in May 1853, and June 6th, the first meeting of the Court of Sessions took place at Alvarado, the county seat. Hon. A. M. Crane was County Judge. The county was divided into townships, and a tax levy was made. The first salary fund for one year was only \$4500. It is interesting to learn that a *Jueces del Campo*, or judge of the annual rodeos and of all cattle interests was appointed for the last time this year.

December 5th, 1854, an election had been held to finally

determine the location of the county seat; Alvarado had 614 votes, San Leandro 782, San Lorenzo 220, Oakland but 18, and Haywards 15. No town having received a majority, a second election was held December 30th at which Alvarado had 1967 votes and San Leandro 1301. It is said by some of the pioneers that over 500 "colonizers" were taken from San Francisco and Alvarado for this election.

The first board of supervisors was elected March 9, 1855,



PROPERTY - ELI S. DENNISON - NILES.

Henry C. Smith representing Washington. They spent \$1200.65 on county buildings in San Leandro (completed July 10th of that year), and they also spent \$200 for a safe. The removal of the county seat was fought in the courts, and August 16th, the supervisors met again in Alvarado, but by February 1856 the State Legislature had confirmed the validity of the election, and San Leandro became the county seat, until March 1873, when it was removed to Oakland, after a stormy election, but not to its present location on Broadway; the supervisors accepted a site offered by the Larue estate in Brooklyn, and attempted to erect buildings there. Again the Legislature and the courts were appealed to, and Broadway secured the prize. But this digression has carried us fairly beyond the modern period.

The earliest assessment roll of Alameda county in existence is that of 1869. The proud old Spanish families whose names then appeared upon the roll have practically disappeared. Most of the American land owners are dead;



RESIDENCE - S. B. VANDERVOORT - IRVINGTON.

some left little, others much. The 1897 assessment roll compared with this, shows hardly a name alike. New families are becoming owners of old Washington township.

Still the pioneers have left brave records here, and their children's children will long tell the story of the past, until when California has its thirty million people, and the twenty-fifth century is here, traditions of these sturdy pioneers will yet remain. Their generous failings will be forgotten; their many and splendid virtues will be remembered in tale and story.

CHARLES H. SHINN.



### WOMEN'S CLUB.

WE are accustomed to think of women's clubs as distinctively modern institutions. Yet in Ancient Greece such women as Sappho and Aspasia gathered about them societies of women for education and culture.

Undoubtedly, the splendid achievements of women in



RESIDENCE — MRS. E. A. BABB — IRVINGTON.  
FOR SALE.

hospital work, and on sanitary commissions, during our civil war, was the germ of the women's club as such.

In 1868 the Sorosis of New York, and a club in Boston was formed; Alice Carey, Mrs. Croly, Kate Field, Julia Ward Howe, and Elizabeth Peabody were among the promoters. A wave of derision swept over the land; the press jeered, and men mocked; but raillery has changed to respect and nobody in sober earnest now ridicules what has become a great social movement.

The Women's Club of Washington Township was organized a year ago, with twenty-five members. Civil Government and current events were chosen as subjects for study. During the session of the Legislature, a special committee



RESIDENCE — MRS. E. TYSON — NILES.

reported on all bills of importance to women or children, or of general interest to the community.

Besides talks on particular subjects, Cuba, Crete, the Nicaragua Canal etc. by club members, Judge Tilden, Mrs. Crane of San Lorenzo, and Mrs. Bonnell, president of the Ebell society of Oakland, have delivered able addresses; in every case full discussion has followed.

Classic Myths, lying at the foundation of literature and art, with current events and current literature, make up the course of study for the coming year. Occasional topics are, household economy, healthful dress, child study, and others. There are now about fifty members; the dues are small as exclusiveness is not desired.

The objects are, to secure for women the advantages arising from unity and mutual helpfulness; to gain vigor of reason; wider intellectual and moral vision and an enlarged

capacity for discerning the justice and right of all social problems. Club relationship means thoughtfulness, enlarged experience, extended social intercourse, tolerance for others' opinions, and involves a spirit of equality and justice, frankness and courtesy. These are all reflected in the home, and give a better understanding of home duties, while the pettiness born of dealing with small things, is lost in larger interests. A little time given to an interesting branch of science, art, literature or ethics, provides a theme for conversation above the malarial region of idle gossip, small talk and slang.

The highest, holiest and noblest work of women will continue to be done in the home; and any influence that helps to brighten and broaden that work is surely good.

MARY C. ALLEN.

### EARLY GOVERNMENT.

ALAMEDA county was governed in early days by Courts of Session, in which body was vested the entire civil business of the county. They were first established by an Act of the Legislature, dated April 11, 1850, then by legislative enactment they were abolished and succeeded by Boards of Supervisors.



DRUG STORE — H. D. FORD — IRVINGTON.

The first meeting of the Court of Sessions of this county was held at New Haven, now known as Alvarado, June 6, 1853. Hon. A. M. Crane, acting as County Judge, and I. S. Long and D. S. Lacy, Associate Justices of the Peace.

The Board of Supervisors was created by the Act of March 9, 1855 and ever since has had full charge of all County business.

### IRVINGTON HOTEL.

THIS hotel is one of the best equipped and neatest public houses in the country. It has lately come under the proprietorship of Mr. E. H. Haight, who has purchased the property, and his intention to make his hotel a



IRVINGTON HOTEL — E. H. HAIGHT, PROP.

model of neatness is now being carried out. The dining room is under the personal supervision of Mrs. Haight, and the table and the mode of service is par excellence.



## THE WASHINGTON PRESS.

WE'VE been thinking much of cold type to-day,  
 That brings to us thoughts from every way,  
 When there turned and set, then inked and struck  
 They bring Gospel tidings and miners' luck.  
 The years are coming and going along  
 While we join the march of the merry throng,  
 And we want the news of the day and week,  
 The city, and neighbors we daily seek.  
 This old world is big as well as round;  
 The paper that gives no uncertain sound,  
 We want in our homes in a sparkling dress  
 To make us glad and our families bless.  
 THE WASHINGTON PRESS at its ready post  
 To join in the march of the newsy host,  
 Not only country towns and city ways  
 But all around the world, their wonder days.  
 There's picturesque Niles, the great railroad town  
 Where tracks and wires and clicks abound,  
 You going North or South or East or West  
 Then from Niles you must go and do your best.  
 Quiet Decoto with her shades of green,  
 Her Endeavor Church, the first to be seen,  
 A town of order, progress and good will  
 With Masonic Home on its sunny hill.  
 There's our Mission too, on the mountain side,  
 Where the uplifted cross will ever abide,  
 With its sparkling streams and its olive trees  
 Where the shady peak greets the summer breeze.  
 There's busy Newark, with her buzzing saws,  
 A people of business, order and law.  
 The car makers shop and all trades abide,  
 All tempered by the breath of the ebbing tide.  
 But there's Alvarado, it beats them all,  
 For day and night workers and chimneys tall,  
 With her cottage homes and busy street  
 Where beets are a tender, if sugary sweet.  
 Centreville's business is full of renown,  
 But better still it's our High School town,  
 Where our girls and our boys of highest grade  
 On foot, cart and wheel seek Academic shade.  
 There is Warm Springs too, a rural retreat,  
 A first-class school, equipped and right complete,  
 A church and good people along the road,  
 Who are happy in home life and doing good.  
 There is pretty Sunol down in the Glen,  
 But we only hear of her now and then,  
 She's like her neighbors in Picturesque hills  
 Full of orchards and vines and rippling rills.  
 For Pleasanton and Livermore, noted afar  
 With Vesper brightness as the Shining Stars.  
 Their beautiful valleys and busy streets,  
 Their schools of learning and homes complete.  
 But Irvington is above them all  
 For Seminary Park and Curtner Hall,  
 With her hundred girls from mountain and dell  
 In happy Curtner Home, in learning dwell.  
 The town is lively and every house blest,  
 With timely issues of the WASHINGTON PRESS.  
 The ubiquity Editor full of business  
 Preparing for us the WASHINGTON PRESS.

REV. J. DURHAM.

MANY of the homes of the residents of this township are shown in this issue of the PRESS. Do they not look as though their owners were thrifty well-to-do people? They are! for they live in the finest valley in the State, as regards climate, soil, and in fact everything going to make life worth the living.

## HORTICULTURAL INDUSTRY - 1820 - '97.

IN attempting to give a short history of the Horticultural Industry of this Township, I find it difficult to arrive at exact dates, consequently I will have to rely on memory and the best information procurable under existing circumstances.

The first fruit trees planted in this township that we have any knowledge of, were those planted by the Mission Fathers and Mr. Sunol, the original owner of what is known as Sunol Valley, who for many years was well known to the old residents of the township.

These consisted of two pear orchards, and were growing on the east side of the main street of Mission San Jose and supposed to be planted in the early part of the present century between 1820 - 25, - they were in a flourishing condition in 1852 - and occupied enclosures north of the old adobe church; I do not think any of them are in existence at the present time.

The next introduction of fruit trees occurred in 1852 and were brought from the east by Dr. Whaley under the instructions of Mr. E. L. Beard, father of Senator J. L. Beard of this township.

From this nursery stock many small orchards were planted throughout the township; some of the first to plant fruit



GRAPE PICKING - PALMDALE VINEYARD.

trees were Wm. Simm, Joseph Nichols, Mr. McCormic, Jos. Shinn, Mr. Marshall, G. W. Bond and J. M. Horner, also the late George Walters of Irvington.

The first black cherries that I remember to be in bearing were those on the place of G. W. Bond at Centreville and were readily sold for from 30 to 50 cents per pound.

But not until the early seventies was there any extensive movement for the planting of large or permanent orchards, since which time the increase has been continuous. At present one can travel for miles in the township without being out of sight of an orchard.

Nearly all kinds of deciduous trees have been planted and proved a success, such as the pear, peach, prune, apricot, plum, almond, quince etc., until at present date we have 3620 acres of deciduous fruits, nine-tenths of which are in bearing.

The citrus fruits have not been extensively planted, but have been successful in all cases.

The largest grove of orange trees is at Niles, planted by Mr. H. A. Mayhew, now bearing fine fruit; others are those of H. Crowell and C. J. Bond of Irvington, Mr. Gallegos and C. C. McIver of Mission San Jose, also H. Curtner of Warm Springs. Lemons are also in bearing in many orchards.

WM. BARRY.

THE first public school of the township was established in Alvarado in the year 1853, the scholars meeting in the residence of Captain Marston, under the tutorage of Mrs. Warren. Previous to this time a private school with five pupils, was opened, the rates of tuition being five dollars per month.



## SOCIETY.

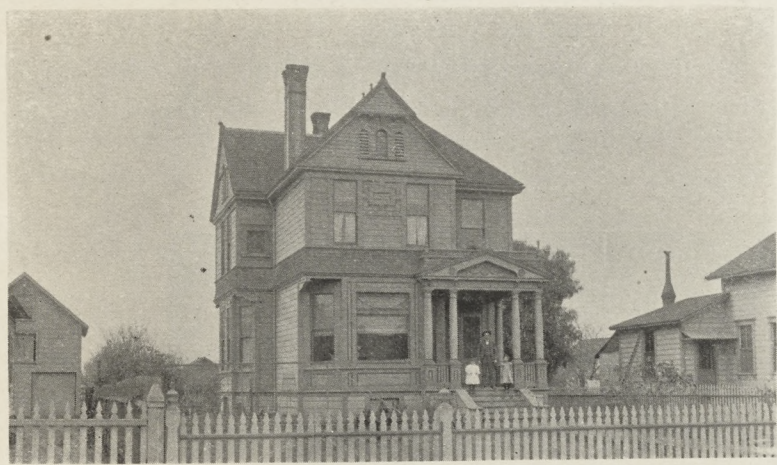
AND what shall be said of our Society? That word which means so little and yet so much—for man is eminently a social being and in this characteristic does he emphatically distinguish himself from the lower order of creation. The word society may stand for the petty,



RESIDENCE — MRS. C. J. STEVENS — MISSION SAN JOSE.

the frivolous and unworthy aims and pastimes of the ultra fashionable set—or the would-be exclusive cliques of our cities, or larger towns; or it may stand for association with one's fellows and the true companionship of kindred natures and thus represent the fulfillment of the natural instinct and the longings of the human heart and mind.

Residents of cities often become so attached to the advantages and excitements of such a life, that the thought of taking up one's abode in the country presents itself as a monotonous, dead-and-alive existence, while those who live in the country come to think there is little good elsewhere, and are loth to give up the charm and freedom of their surroundings. But it is true that both places have their advan-



RESIDENCE — A. LERNHART — CENTREVILLE.

tages and disadvantages. City life broadens sympathy, rouses activity and gives polish. Country life fosters strength and independent spirit, and the influences of the country are more certainly in the line of virtue.

A late writer has truly said "The ideal life is no doubt that which is lived under the beneficent influences of our mother earth, yet not so far removed from the populous town or city but that its advantages may also be enjoyed at will and at small cost of time and money." Such conditions for residence do we claim for our own favored township. To be encompassed by hill and vale, to look out upon fertile fields or blossoming and fruitful orchards, to watch the ever changing forms of life and growth which Nature presents to to us, not only charms the eye but satisfies the mind. If added to these conditions, we find the community numbering many people and families of intelligence, culture and refinement, then we may safely assert that the society of our township is of the best.

Our young people in attendance at Berkeley and Stan-

ford Universities, at Mills College and the various city schools, keep the people in general in touch with the educational life about them. Many of our residents have formerly lived in San Francisco or Oakland and have close ties of friendship or relationship still uniting them to their old associations.

The fraternal orders are well represented and active interest is shown in the meetings of each. There is the University Club, meeting quarterly, often with a college professor to present some subject and add interest to the program of the evening. There is the Women's Club, meeting the first Tuesday of each month at the different homes of the members for the purpose of common study and social reunion. Chautauqua Circles are organized in the various towns. Church Guilds and sewing societies hold meetings where members may work together in charitable ways. Whist Clubs organize for series of games during winter evenings. There are church socials, receptions, teas, luncheons, card parties, dancing parties, and various forms of entertainment for old and young.



RESIDENCE — GEORGE FISHER — NILES.

In all these there is no vulgar attempt to outshine ones neighbor or friend in display or in providing for the entertainment of guests—no set or exclusive line of invitation but a wholesome and worthy desire to add to the advancement and good of the community. In nearly all social gatherings there is the graceful mingling of old and young—of parents and children—that adds dignity to the vivacity and brightness of youth.

The shopping day in the city, a trip down for the matinees, for a contest on the athletic field, an interesting lecture, or for a few days visit with friends or relatives is as frequent with many as with the residents of the cities themselves, thus adding touches of life and color to what otherwise might be



RESIDENCE — H. OVERACKER — CENTREVILLE.

monotonous. With all these conditions, as set forth, who will question the assertion that the society of our township is—in the right meaning of the word—good society?

MRS. H. A. MAYHEW.



## LINDA VISTA.

FAMOUS vintages are the pride and glory of all countries. Restricted as the regions where the true wine-grape vines flourish, much more restricted in area and fewer in number are the favored spots where grand results are attained.

After a most thorough, comprehensive and exhaustive study of the many wine-producing locations of California, the remarkably fine productions of wine of the old Palmer Vineyard of Mission San Jose, planted in 1858, first attracted the attention of Mr. C. C. McIver, the owner of Linda Vista. As far back as twenty years ago these wines, grown from native vines and produced by those unskilled in wine-making in the crudest possible way, had created for themselves a reputation for their excellent qualities, good flavors and their freedom from vicious tastes, that even

noon's sun was found to produce not only grapes, but fruits of many kinds, to a degree of perfection but seldom equaled and never surpassed in any portion of California,—the climate semi-tropical, and yet fanned by the cooling and moist breezes from San Francisco Bay, which prevents the baking and caking effect on the soil so frequently met with in the interior. The more deeply he investigated, the more convinced Mr. McIver became that of all locations in the State

no other so fully promised to satisfy the ambition he so enthusiastically hoped to gratify. The purchase of the Palmer Estate followed, and, discovering that the same character of soil favored by the same conditions extended a mile or so south, further purchases were made until to-day Linda Vista covers over a thousand acres.

A study of the most celebrated vineyards of Europe, whose reputations have been justly earned by the high quality of their wines, was followed by the selection of cuttings



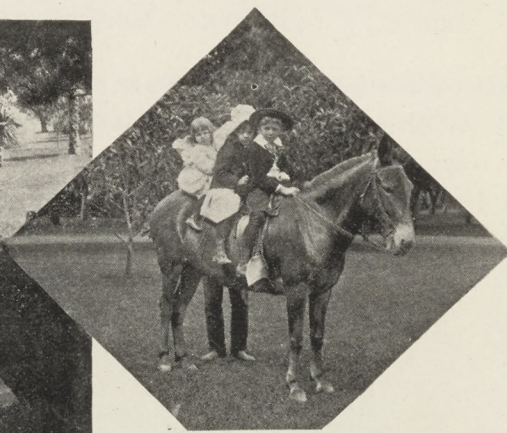
"THE PINKNEY GUARD."



MR. CUBBAGE.



AFTERNOON TEA.



DAISY AND FRIENDS.

at this late day may often be heard commented upon.

A deep and thorough investigation proved conclusively that the superior quality of these wines was due to no happy chance. The soil itself, rich with calcareous washings from the adjacent mountains, was found to be peculiarly adapted for the production of fine wine grapes. The land lying on the western slopes of Mission Peak exposed to the after-

noon's sun was found to produce not only grapes, but fruits of many kinds, to a degree of perfection but seldom equaled and never surpassed in any portion of California,—the climate semi-tropical, and yet fanned by the cooling and moist breezes from San Francisco Bay, which prevents the baking and caking effect on the soil so frequently met with in the interior. The more deeply he investigated, the more convinced Mr. McIver became that of all locations in the State



ENTRANCE TO LINDA VISTA.





voted to them was placed in the hands of experienced vintners, whose entire lives had been spent in these same celebrated vineyards of Europe. The results have surpassed even the most sanguine expectations concerning them, for the grapes produced from these vines are more fully developed, richer and finer, than those produced by the mother vines from which they were originally taken. The causes of this are many. The first is undoubtedly the wonderful soil, the next the devoted care and attention bestowed upon the vines, each vine being handled separately by these skilled vintners nine or ten times during each season. Then the climate is as nearly perfect as possible for their development, no frosts ever occurring at Linda Vista to blight the vine, no rain during the ripening season to decay the fruit; and owing to the peculiar situation of the vineyards on the western slopes of Mission Peak, which rises like a wall at

the east, the dew forming on the grapes during night has ample time to evaporate before the morning sun shines on the fruit to blister it and do it harm. In fact, the powers of Nature seem to have concentrated their forces here for the perfect growth and development of the grape.

The vintage at Linda Vista commences about the first of October, when the grapes become ripe. The picking is done by experienced men, who pick the ripe clusters, and place them in boxes holding fifty pounds each, and on arrival at the winery, are placed on tables and carefully assorted.



RESIDENCE - C. C. MCIVER



To-day Linda Vista stands at the head of America's viticultural interests; this has been fully demonstrated by its wines taking the highest premiums at Chicago's World's Fair; that these same wines have for the past five years taken the first premiums at California's viticultural exhibitions; that no skill, care nor art known to the best winemakers of the world has been omitted, and no expense ever spared in the attempt to produce wine as fine as any in the world; that foreign connoisseurs, without prejudice, pronounce the old wines of Linda Vista the equal, and some the superior, of the Château wines of France of the same vintages, and readily distinguish the different types as the same they have been familiar with in Europe, and, after criticizing the quality of our wines, awarded them the highest praise,—we fully believe that then the wine connoisseur of America will give these wines of Linda Vista credit for the merit they so justly deserve.

Bottled wines are handled exclusively, and the vineyard caters to the very best trade, clubs, and private hotels. It may be incidentally mentioned that the Pullman Palace Car Company has for a number of years used nothing but the product of the Linda Vista Vineyard, and the black label is very familiar to travelers.

The entrance to Linda Vista is through an alameda of cypress, leading to the handsome residence of Mr. C. C. McIver. There you find the orange, lemon, date, fig and palm trees in great profusion, and even the banana tree waving its broad and beautiful leaves in the gentle zephyrs.

There you find a model country home, surrounded with all the conveniences possible to make life worth the living, and one is led to believe that he has found the modern Garden of Eden at Linda Vista, the model country home of Washington township.



WINE CELLAR - LINDA VISTA.



### A HISTORICAL SPOT.

**A**MONG the most interesting and historical features of Washington Township are "The Warm Springs" which gives the name to the town and railroad station two miles distant. These springs are about 350 feet above



RESIDENCE — JOSIAH W. STANFORD.

sea level, five of them being in one group and one about a quarter of a mile distant. The flow of all being about fifty thousand gallons daily and being 98° Fahrenheit.

The water of these Springs contains soda, borax, and sulphur and is exceedingly soft. It possesses some peculiar properties. Iron does not rust in the water, nor will the water spoil, if left in an open glass or jar for several months or even a year. When used in a steam boiler this water deposits no sediment, and absolutely no scale, and it is unnecessary to open or clean a boiler for years. Woolen goods washed in this water require very little soap and after washing, are as white and soft as when new. In early times Indians came from great distances and camped around these Springs, many of their stone implements being found there at the present time.

In later years, when the Mission San Jose was founded, the Spanish families living there, and in the surrounding country, sent their ox carts laden with clothing to be washed by the Indian laborers in this soft water. These Springs are on a part of the old Spanish grant known as Rancho del Agua Caliente, and about the year 1852 became the property of Clemente Columbet who built a hotel and opened the place as a bathing and pleasure resort. From time to time he added buildings until the place became the largest and most fashionable resort in the state, several hundreds of people sojourning there during the summer months, until the year 1868 when the earthquake damaged the buildings, the hotel was closed and the place passed into other hands. The Mission Hills the highest of which - Mission Peak - is 2576 feet in height, rise quite abruptly from the springs on the north and east protecting the grounds from the winds, making the climate mild and equable in winter and free from frosts. The grounds are pleasantly laid out, a large fountain on the lawn being filled with rare water lilies, which bloom the year round. Oranges, lemons, limes, figs, and date palm trees grow unharmed by frosts. A stream of water fed from the Mission Hills winds its way through the grounds, the banks being bordered by fine old sycamore and lemon trees.



GARDEN SCENE — JOSIAH W. STANFORD.

The property upon which these Springs are located is now owned by Josiah W. Stanford, and consists of 1225 acres, the products of which are grapes, hay, grain, and beef cattle. The first grapes were planted in 1852 and the vineyard now contains about 200 acres, the grapes being made into wine on the ranch.

There is a distillery, fermenting house, and brick storage cellar having a capacity of three hundred thousand gallons.

### CENTREVILLE TOWN HALL.

**A**TOWN without a Hall, is like unto a circus without a menagerie. I don't know that our hall proved a whole one, but certainly for a long while it was a great big white elephant. The old parchment reads as follows:

In the year 1869 it entered into the minds of men to put up this Castle. They did put their hands in their pockets and the there-with came forth in abundance, and with enthusiasm. A pretentious Castle, long, wide and high; Greek columns, and of colonial aspect. It even entered into the early plan to raise a modern cupola, and for years four poles raised appealing hands to heaven to be finished or razed to the earth.

As time went on, yea, years passed, a darkness came upon the castle and near it. Men eyed each other and quoth "We have done enough! Where cometh the income, we thought to sustain expenses! Where is the dance and music to pay for the tapestry that crumbeleth and groweth gray and faded with the touch of time and cobweb." As the there-with grew more urgent they waxed loud with wrath and vowed by all the leaves on the trees and the buds on the bush that they would do no more. It was the great and terrible Dragon Debt that caused the darkness and trouble as he settled slowly but surely upon the castle. Now this dragon came for the land of the great lord Curtner, while he greatly disliked the beast he could not contrall him without the strongest aid of the people. He was hideous to look upon and belonged to a race of Dragons that never die. He has caused

great distruction of property and lives of men. He has broken up families and burdened the great and the small. He will place his unseen grasp upon a Knight and from that time he grows old and grey. He smileth seldom. Life looks dark and happiness foldeth her wings afar off. On



WINE CELLAR — JOSIAH W. STANFORD.



some his weight was so great that they could not endure it even for a year. This Castle was grasped by its many claws to the weight in modern tongue of fifteen hundred dollars. The warriors who had born the honor of fighting him for many years, leaned upon their swords and gave up hope. It came to pass at this time in the year of 1891, June 20, that the women around about it, with brave hearts and determined aspect said, "Let us join together and see what we can do



RESIDENCE — DR. H. W. EMERSON — CENTREVILLE.

toward frightening this scaly beast away." They chose as their leader, a well known dame Gregory by name to lead their forces; a young matron Louise Overacker to treasure their resources, and one of the house of Trefry to take charge of pen and parchment. They did call meetings and duly become signed and sealed to carry forth war upon the Dragon until he died or was driven away.

Knoweth that the heart of man rejoiceth in pleasure, gatherings were called and dance and music greatly frightened the monster. A mighty Knight of elocution of the house of Lynch took up his lance and even the young of the land did what they could. Before five moons had grown fat and lean the Dragon was lifted \$437.50 of present reckoning. The women did also sew and sell their work. They did ask assistance by a strange manner called chain letters to the weight of \$80. The great powers of this district desired a strong house to be built for the purpose of holding bad men. The women did part with a strip of land and a small corner with the agreement that they should lift \$175 weight off their foe. No peace was given him, and seeing the courage of the women one Knight gathered courage and said, "I will raise him the last \$50 weight." The son of the same house, said, "I will do likewise." Two more well known Knights raised their lances and said, "We too are ready." This made \$200 weight which did encourage the band of women very much.

Alas! Time passed swiftly, and the Reaper that touches all in their season, called the sweet brave matron, who guarded the treasure and parchment. Out of the ranks was chosen two more, by name Hatch and Bunting, and they continued in the fight until the end.

Just as this dreaded Dragon seemed about to spread his

wings and depart, a great friend and comrade came to his assistance. "Hard Times" was his name and the two hovered closely over the ancient walls. But never once did the women falter or draw back, they even advanced a little, keeping taxes and insurance under their banner. About this time the Lord Curtner sent aid to the weight of \$50 which frightened an ally of the Dragon "Interest" greatly.

In the year of 1897 the women found that Hard Times



RESIDENCE — J. E. JACOBUS — NILES.

had been forced to draw away. This gave them great hopes, help seemed to pour in. A great and powerful Lady offered assistance. With a grand effort they advanced amid music, singing and dancing and forced the Dragon to flee from the walls, noted walls forever. Here the old Castle stands; weather beaten and soiled, but strong and substantial still. With the flight of Debt brighter times will come. The heart of the women who have brought the peace, dream plans of cleanliness, additions necessary to the welfare of all; cosy dining halls where the tale of war and trouble shall melt away in happiness, content, and prosperity.

FLEDA O. BUNTING.

#### THE FIRST AMERICANS.

IN the month of May, 1827, Father Narcisce Duran, then in charge of the Catholic Mission at Mission San Jose, was greatly surprised to learn from some of the Indians that a party of whites were camped not far from the quadrangle, and in consequence was somewhat peturbed as to their presence in that locality. A message was sent to the white travelers by an Indian, asking them to explain their presence in the far West. An answer was sent to the Father conveying the intelligence that they were Americans, on their way to the Columbia river and after repeated attempts to cross the mountains had to give up the undertaking on account of the deep snow. They had lost many horses in the attempt, and were

in a great measure destitute of the necessities of life. The message ended with the following: "I am, Reverend Father, your strange but real friend and Christian brother, J. S. Smith." This is the first authentic report of the first Americans who inhabited this part of California.

Thus did civilization commence in Washington Township and the present speaks well of the progress made.



JOSIAH W. STANFORD'S AFRICAN DATE PALM.



### CALIFORNIA'S PRESENT AND FUTURE.

THE resources of California, are, comparatively speaking, inexhaustible, and as yet, are only partially developed.

It is true, the coast counties, are well populated, and the rich alluvial soil, is in a high state of cultivation; but there're vast tracks of the so-called desert-lands, in the interior of the State, which only lacks the application of water, to

ever dug out, and which only awaits the hand of man to bring forth. The idea which is so prevalent, especially in the East, that the mines of California are exhausted, is an erroneous one, as new mines are being discovered, and developed, every year. Those who wish to possess the precious metals, need not brave the perils of cold-frozen Alaska to obtain them; for they are to be found right here in Cali-



MAIN ENTRANCE - CURTNER SEMINARY - IRVINGTON.

make them "blossom like the rose." The truth of this statement has been demonstrated wherever irrigation has been resorted to. In many places in the great San Joaquin valley irrigating ditches have been dug, and an inexhaustible supply of water has been obtained from the snow-capped Sierras. The time is not far distant, when the whole of this large valley will be irrigated, and ditches large enough to admit of boats for transportation purposes could, and probably will be made. It has been estimated, that this valley alone, will be able to support a million inhabitants. When this feat is accomplished many other valleys in the State, just as rich as this one is, and are as accessible to water, will do likewise.

The mountains of California have produced about forty

ifornia, "the land of sunshine, fruit and flowers." The mining interests of this State are one of her principal resources. The mountains of California, have also vast tracks of timber land, the best in the world, consisting of sugar and yellow pine, spruce and redwood trees, the most of which have grown to an immense size. The timber-land belonged to the government, and was not brought into the market until

1878, when Congress passed a special act allowing any resident of the Pacific Coast 21 years of age, to take up 160 acres of this valuable land, by paying \$2.50 per acre. In less than twelve years, the whole belt, running from Washington on the North to lower California on the South, was taken up. These lands certain to be very valuable



BLOODED STOCK



LINDA VISTA



per-cent of all the gold in the world up to the present time, saying nothing of what her inexhaustible mines of silver, quicksilver and other metals, have, and will produce in the near future; besides her vast coal deposits, her cement and tin mines. In fact our mountains produce everything in the category of metals, and minerals, and we have the assurance to believe, there is just as much lying undisturbed, as was

in the near future, as the railroads have commenced to build roads in that direction.

In agricultural productions, we stand tenth in the line, while in fruit growing we have no peer. As soon as cheap transportation is an established fact, and our dried fruits are more generally known, and appreciated, there is no calculating the revenue that will be derived from the fruit indus-



try. It behooves the inhabitants of this Coast, to aid and encourage the speedy completion of the Nicaragua canal, for then, and not till then, can we compete with foreign producers, on account of the exorbitant freight rates now existing. Our dried fruits are unequalled in flavor and size, and when we consider the fact that apricots can only be raised profitably in a very few places outside of this State, one is impressed by the fact that the supply will never exceed the demand. Our dried prunes are gaining notoriety every year. Santa Clara Co. alone produces more pounds of this delicious fruit than all the rest of the world, consequently they are sure to be profitable.

The beet sugar industry of California is assuming large proportions, and proves very remunerative. We boast of having in our township one of the oldest beet-sugar factories in the State. Its capacity was more than doubled last year. There have been several new factories built in the past year, and several more are being talked of.

The wine interests have proven a success (financially), especially so, since the wine-men formed a combine for the purpose of advancing the price of it. The largest and best managed wine-cellar in the State is located here in Irvington, and a portion of the year gives employment to a large number of men.

The manufacturing interests of California, are as yet in their infancy, but when capitalists realize our climatic and many other advantages, new factories will spring up like magic.

California has a grand future before her. She is sure to become one of the richest states in the Union. Her inhabitants, although cosmopolitan, are very progressive - nothing daunts them. Whatever is undertaken is carried through successfully. Ex-President Harrison spoke of the thrift of the West when he was here. He said, "It seems as if the very air is impregnated with thrift, and one inhales it with every breath he draws." The rural districts of California, are certainly ahead of those of the East, and one has only to travel through the old-settled states, to be impressed by the difference. Our thrift is probably due to our not having to contend with climatic conditions, consequently we are better able physically to overcome the difficulties that be set the pathway of life.

ESTHER A. BABB.

COMPARE our beautiful valley, pleasant homes, delightful climate, happy people, busy enterprises, prosperous vineyards, our fine church and school facilities, with other locations, and then decide to make your home with us.

### FIRST CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR CHURCH.

DECOTO has the first and only Christian Endeavor Church in California. The whole building could be easily put on the stage of one of the great theatres, yet, it is sufficiently large for the little band of worshipers that every Sabbath gathers within its walls to hear the word of God spoken from the lips of a minister who comes three miles to furnish spiritual food, as the membership is not sufficiently large to support a pastor of their own.

But why is it a C. E. church you ask? Because that band was instrumental in erecting it - in fact it was their mites, which, when gathered together made a sum sufficient to commence the work. Long had the Rev. Maar of Niles labored with the church people, holding weekly meetings in the school house, an idea

which he never was in favor of. Decoto must have a church, but how to raise the money was a question that even good Mr. Maar could not answer. A meeting was called and the pros and cons freely discussed, with the result that a committee was appointed to canvass for funds. They did their best and \$300 was subscribed - not quite half enough. How could they get the remainder? In vain did the cry for more go forth, only to meet with the answer "I can't afford it." As a last resource the matter was brought up before a large Christian Endeavor society of Oakland. From them there was a hearty answer - they would help. In fact all the C. E. societies in the State would help in the good cause. Letters flew from that noble band of Oakland throughout California. The response was quick and glorious. Of course they would help. Every member would contribute even if it were only a cent. Money commenced to flow in, and soon Mr. Maar had the pleasure of placing the order for lumber. In February 1896 the building was completed; but still not complete, for it was not finished off inside. There were not donations enough to do it. Then did the Decoto

people put their shoulders to the wheel and after a long struggle the little building is now complete, even to neat carpets on the floor. And this is why the noble C. E.'s up at Decoto, have an interest in that little house of God.

H. E. KELLEY.

### R. B. CROWELL.

BY all means the neatest and best arranged Stationary store in the county is R. B. Crowell's of Irvington. He is building up a lucrative business by his efforts to please those who come to his popular place for their supplies of stationery, fancy goods, confectionery, cigars, blank and school books; in fact a full line of every thing for the home or office, in the Stationery line.



RESIDENCE - J. G. MATTOS JR. - CENTREVILLE.



STATIONERY STORE - R. B. CROWELL  
IRVINGTON.



AGRICULTURAL WORKS - J. STANLEY - MISSION S. J.



### THE OLD MISSION CHURCH.

**M**ISSION San Jose, was founded by the Franciscan Friars, on Trinity Sunday, June 11, 1797, and became at different periods the beginning of Spanish settlement and the cradle of American civilization in Alameda county.

All of the California Missions were quadrilateral buildings enclosing a courtyard ornamented with fountains and trees, the whole consisting of Fathers apartments, boys class rooms, church, monastery, storehouse and barracks. The Missions were designed for the civilization and conversion of the Indians, and each establishment was under the care of two Religions, the elder attending to the interior and the younger to the exterior administration. "The monastery was inhabited by the young Indian girls. There under the care of approved matrons, they were carefully trained and instructed in those branches necessary for their condition in life; they were not permitted to leave till of an age to be married, and this with a view of preserving their morality." The fathers and sons were taught the habits and arts of industry and those who exhibited more talents than their companions were taught vocal and instrumental music, the latter consisting of flute, horn and violin.

The Mission of San Jose lay close upon the breast "of the grand old leonine hills that form the mighty crescent which walls in the great bay of San Francisco." The quadrilateral sides were about 300 feet in length, the whole structure thus covering a considerable extent of ground; the plan was well distributed, the exterior appearance simple yet well proportioned. With the exception of the church the walls were but 14 feet high, scarcely broken by



OLIVE TREE.

connecting and communicating with the church. The buildings were all one story, built of adobe, and appeared strangely pale in their mastic coat, beneath the red tile roof. Before the main front lay a crystal pool in the heart of a wonderful garden, while the fountain spray, took the faint hues of the rainbow as it fell playing at prisms.

We of to day, cannot conceive what a perfect picture, the primitive buildings and surroundings of the Mission San Jose really presented. We do not often think of the bright human side of that first civilization of California, glorious but all too brief, which arose under the fostering care of the Franciscan Friars. The buildings of the old church were completed in the short space of fifteen years, and were erected by the most untutored of artisans, in an uncivilized



A. O. U. W. HALL — MISSION SAN JOSE.



EARLY MISSION INDIANS.

windows and without architectural ornament. A cloister extended around the inner court and another along half of the main front, con-

country, with but the rudest of tools, and with timber often at remote distances. The dutiful dusky Indians never disturbed the peaceful existence of the Mission of San Jose. From insignificant beginnings this Mission made steady developments and in 1842 in number of inhabitants and the natural success achieved, ranked fourth in order, amongst the twenty-one Missions of Alta California, which dotted the sea coast from San Diego to San Francisco.

After the lapse of nearly a century, but little remains of the Mission of San Jose, the main buildings having been destroyed by the never-to-be-forgotten earthquake of October 23, 1868.

To day, Mission San Jose bears only in its name the memory of the glories of the past.

A. L. SUNDERER.

### POLITICAL FRAUD.

**E**VEN in the early political history of our township they had their tribulations.

The way the County Seat was lost, shows how the politicians handled things in those days.

The first County Seat of Alameda County was located at Alvarado, the centre of the then, population. In the year 1854 the necessity for more commodious quarters for public offices became so apparent that the erection of a new county building was decided upon. The contract called for a frame building 30 x 60 feet, with twelve-foot sides, cost not to exceed twelve hundred dollars. Petitions were circulated by the various towns and a sufficient number of signatures secured to warrant the calling of an election to determine the future county seat. On December 5, 1854 an election took place but no decision was arrived at, as no town of the seven received a majority of all the votes cast. Another election was called for December 30th. Only Alvarado and San Leandro competed for the honors. The vote showed



BANANA TREE.

that the former town had received 1067 votes while her competitor had secured 1301 votes, thus capturing the prize. The aggregate vote of the second election exceeded that of the first by 500. This feat was accomplished by the most bare-faced fraud. Men were imported from San Francisco by the hundred, as in those days an election was a kind of a-go-as-you-please sort of an affair.

THE only authentic data of the first election ever held in the township, was that of an election called on May 4, 1850. There was only one polling place for this whole district, and that was at the store of H. C. Smith at Alvarado. In the year 1853 Alameda county was created, being taken in part from Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties. On August 1, of this year the first election precincts were declared; one at Mission San Jose, the other at the Court House, Alvarado.



## CURTNER SEMINARY.

THIS popular Seminary is located at Irvington, on the line of the Southern Pacific from Oakland to San Jose, and can be reached in an hour and a quarter from San Francisco, forty-five minutes from Oakland, and twenty minutes from San Jose. The location is admirable in every respect. It is in the midst of a community famed for its hospitality, social culture, intelligence and moral worth. It is surrounded by one of the richest, most beautiful and highly improved agricultural regions in the world. The climate is mild and genial, yet so bracing



SEMINARY BUILDINGS.

that a sense of debility is never felt. The cold winds from the sea are so tempered and modified in their passage over the bay and intervening valley that before reaching us they lose their asperity and give to us soft, gentle zephyrs laden with all the tonic effects of the great ocean from which they come, rendering this region one of the most delightful and salubrious in all the world.

The buildings occupy a commanding site adjoining the town of Irvington. The view from the grounds extends many miles along the Santa Clara Valley and embraces the larger portion of the Bay of San Francisco and the shores and villages beyond. In the background, at a distance of two miles, rises the mountain range which forms the eastern boundary of the Santa Clara Valley. A more inviting and appropriate location with a range of scenery so wide and varied cannot be found in the State. The grounds comprise fifteen acres, a part of which is ornamented with a large number and variety of evergreens, while other portions are devoted to landscape gardening and are laid out and adorned with taste.

The Seminary was opened on Jan. 3d, 1895, as Irvington Seminary, and incorporated in September of the same year under its present name.

It had its origin in the generous liberality of Mr. Henry Curtner, of Warm Springs, Alameda Co., who selected the location and donated the property for that purpose.

Its object as felt by its founders was to establish and carry on an institution for the practical and higher education of young women. It aims, by those methods which experience and philosophy suggest as the best, to develop the whole being, that the lives of those who leave its walls may be round and complete and result in the greatest

amount of good possible for them to achieve. As an institution especially for girls and young women, it aims not only to lay the foundation for the highest and broadest intellectual and literary culture, but also to preserve and perfect those graces of character which mark a refined and complete womanhood. It is distinguished in a marked degree by the practical nature of the work done.

The growth of the school has been rapid, and substantial. Established three years ago in the midst of the financial panic then prevailing, it has grown to be one of the largest, best equipped, and most progressive schools for young ladies in the West.

The Seminary is a home school, and affords not only the best educational advantages, but the protection and refining influences of a cultured, Christian home. This feature will commend itself to all parents who have daughters to educate. The question of to-day is not so much what the pupil knows, but what she is becoming. To prepare students for life, for the broad earnest life now opening to all American girls, is the object ever kept in view. A four years Seminary graduate course, a University preparatory course and Seminary Preparatory Course are sustained.

Students are prepared for Stanford and the University of California, and the leading Colleges and Universities of the east. A strong department of music is sustained in which Conservative advantages are offered.

Superior advantages are offered to students who wish to do special work in elocution, voice culture, and painting.

In school work as elsewhere, health is of the first importance. Physical development and the perfect health which goes with it are indispensable to success and happiness. In



CROQUET GROUND.

the home life of Curtner Seminary every possible precaution is taken not only to preserve, but by proper gymnasium work and out-door sports and exercises to improve the health of its students. The climate, location, and general surroundings are conducive to health. The drainage and sewerage system of the entire premises is perfect, and in the winter season the buildings are heated throughout by steam, thus affording every requisite for health and comfort. The present term closes May 20th, and the next term will open Aug. 10th. For catalogue and other information address

H. C. INGRAM, Irvington, Cal.



### A WELL EQUIPPED STORE.

ONE of the best and most thoroughly equipped general merchandise stores of this section, is that of Mr. N. L. Babb, at Irvington. It occupies the lower floor of a large brick building in the centre of town and is packed with groceries, dry-goods, hardware, and in fact with all that is necessary to conduct a general merchandise store in the country. The illustration on this page, will give the reader



MERCHANDISE STORE — N. L. BABB — IRVINGTON.

a good idea of the extent of the building.

N. L. Babb arrived in California in 1852, on the steamer Daniel Webster, and ever since that time has been a resident of this township. He first started in farming, but later on moved into town and entered the mercantile business. He is an ardent Republican, and has twice been appointed post-master at Irvington, the position now being held by him. He and his sister, Miss Maria Babb, attend to the wants of their many customers, and are ever awake to their interests. The public telephone is stationed in the store and is under the supervision of Miss Maria Babb.

### A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS.

AMONG the young business men of Irvington, is George A. Cash, whose face is as familiar to the general public as the appearance of an eagle on an American dollar. He is always the same jovial, whole-souled fellow, full



RESIDENCE — MRS. G. W. WALTERS — IRVINGTON.

of business, yet always willing to stop sufficiently long to give full and courteous answers to the numerous questions plied to him during the day. He has built up a business in the coal oil trade, which keeps him on the drive from daylight till dark, as his many customers are scattered all over the township. He prides himself in handling only the very best brands of coal oil and gasoline in the market, and furnishes it in both retail and wholesale quantities. One of the main features of his business, is his house delivery, and as a careful tab is kept of about the quantity generally used, he will always be found on hand to fill up the almost empty tank, and thereby save the head of the family much bother and trouble. A postal card telling him to call, will receive prompt attention.

### THRIFT AND ENTERPRISE.

ONE of the oldest manufacturing businesses of the township, is the agricultural and blacksmith shop of Mr. Crowell, at Irvington. The present large buildings were erected in March 1861, and ever since has been the scene of thrift and enterprise on the part of the owner. No less than three hands are constantly employed, much of their time being engaged in manufacturing the celebrated Crowell Cylinder Teeth. The demand for these teeth is steadily on the increase, orders being received from all parts of the Pacific Coast.

Mr. H. Crowell left his home in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, for California in September 1859, arriving at San Francisco on the Steamer Orazaba, the same year. He immediately left for Irvington, and went into the blacksmithing business



MACHINE SHOPS — H. CROWELL — IRVINGTON.

in a shop that stood where the Hirsch store now stands. In 1862, Mr. Crowell went into business with Jim Beazell, and the present commodious buildings erected. He finally purchased his partners interest and ever since has been the sole proprietor. He owns one of the handsomest homes in the valley, and his orange orchard is the admiration of all. The engraving on page 4 gives only a slight glimpse of his cosy house.

### MERCANTILE ENTERPRISE.

AMONG the prosperous business men of this township is S. Ehrman, who conducts a large General Merchandise store at Mission San Jose. His first venture in the merchandise field was in 1863, when he came to the Mission and purchased an interest in the business then conducted by a brother and a partner, whose store was located in an old adobe building. A few years after he re-



MERCHANDISE STORE — S. EHRLMAN — MISSION SAN JOSE.

moved to Suisun where he conducted a store for four years. He then returned to the Mission and again bought into the firm. A few years later he purchased his partner's interest, and became the sole proprietor.

Fire destroyed his store three years ago and a fine large brick building was erected in its place. Mr. Ehrman is considered one the most substantial men of the township.



## CENTREVILLE ATHLETIC CLUB.

THE Centreville Athletic Club, the only incorporated organization of its kind in Washington Township, was organized on March 7, 1896.

A number of meetings had been previously held in two of our sister towns for the purpose of organizing a Township Athletic Club, but no definite results could be attained. It seemed impossible to procure a suitable location, so after the idea had been given up, several of the Centreville boys were congregated in Archibald's harness shop one day talking the matter over, when W. W. Walton volunteered to canvass the business men of the town and ascertain what they would do in a financial way, towards starting a club. He went to work and in one hour reported that at least one hundred dollars could be procured.

Deeming that a sufficient nucleus upon which to start, a meeting was called, to be held in the Town Hall, on March 4th., for the purpose of organizing an Athletic Club. On that evening the Hall was crowded and great was the excitement when Howard Emerson called the meeting to order. Temporary organization was formed by electing Frank M. Smith as Chairman, and Fred F. Dusterberry as Secretary.

It was then decided to form the Centreville Athletic Club, with the fee for joining same at two dollars and fifty cents, and dues at twenty-five cents per month. The roll was then opened and forty-six signatures secured.

It was then ordered that a committee of six be appointed on permanent organization. The Chair appointed Howard Emerson, J. D. Norris, F. T. Hawes, E. B. Thompson, J. B. Ritter and J. F. Brandon. The meeting then adjourned to meet on Saturday evening March 7th. in the Town Hall. During the interim, signatures on the roll kept increasing, subscriptions kept coming in, and the enthusiasm was at its highest pitch, so that when the meeting was called to order on Saturday evening the success of the Club was assured. The committee on permanent organization reported a constitution and by-laws, which were adopted. The election of officers resulted in the following being elected: President, Frank M. Smith; Secretary, Fred F. Dusterberry; Treasurer, A. Leonhart; Board of Directors, H. C. Gregory, W. W. Walton, Howard Emerson, J. D. Norris, F. T. Hawes and J. B. Ritter.

It was also decided at this meeting to incorporate the club, and that no liquors or gambling should be allowed on the grounds.

During this time negotiations had been entered into with Thos. Nelson, with a view to getting from him a five year lease upon the six and one-half acres of ground located

immediately west of the Union High School grounds. It proved successful, and at an annual rental of \$125. During the first months lease, a club house 30 x 60 feet, a grand stand sufficient to seat 200 people, a base ball diamond, and a three-lap bicycle track, had been erected. The labor for all of which was kindly donated. At one time no less than 20 teams and 40 men were at work on the track and buildings.

By the 21st. of March 139 members had joined the club and \$275 had been received in subscriptions. Mr. H. C. Gregory having headed the list with \$100.

The club colors decided upon were blue and red, and the monogram a shield with the letters C. A. C.

One hundred and twenty-five dollars were spent in fitting up a gymnasium and procuring paraphernalia.

The grounds were formerly opened to the public May 19, '96.

Chester Hatch was elected Manager of the foot-ball eleven, and under his able management the club has won honors long to be remembered. At the end of the season no club had succeeded in scoring against the C. A. C's. A tie game was played with the Suisun's, neither club being able

to score. The famous Reliance Club of Oakland were defeated before an immense crowd on Washington's birthday, by a score of 12 to 0.

Traps were put in for blue rock shooting, and in season, excites considerable enthusiasm among the shot-gun experts.

Last summer a two-hundred yard rifle range and shooting stand was put in, being one of the most valuable adjuncts of the club. Subscriptions were solicited by D. C. Lowrie, and others, and with the aid of the Board of Directors, about \$200 were spent in building the bulkhead for the range, the shooting house, and the procuring of medals.

A fine three-lap bicycle track was built, and a number of very exciting bicycle meets have taken place.

The centre of the large field is used for base ball and foot ball purposes; and is second to none in this part of Alameda county.

This club can boast of having one of the best baseball, football and rifle shooting teams in the interior of the county.

Fred F. Dusterberry has been elected Manager of the baseball team, and will schedule for this seasons work, a number of

games with out side clubs, which will prove the metal and speed of our local players.

Each and every department is in perfect running order and the future of the club is promising indeed.

The present officers are; President, Howard Emerson; Secretary, Peter Sandholdt; Treasurer, A. Leonhart; Board of Directors, J. E. Jacobus, E. B. Thompson, R. F. Moses, J. D. Norris, W. W. Walton, M. Anderson.

FRANK M. SMITH.



C. A. C. CLUB HOUSE.



J. T. NORRIS. A. LEONHART PRES. F. M. SMITH SECTY. F. F. DUSTERBERRY W. W. WALTON  
R. T. MOSES J. E. JACOBUS L. F. FRANCIS T. D. WITHERLEY

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS - CENTREVILLE ATHLETIC CLUB - 1897.



### OUR TOWNSHIP CHURCHES.

**G**IVEN - a genial climate and a fertile soil and the question so often asked and so vital to every man - "Is it a good place in which to live: is it a safe place in which to bring up my children are not difficult to answer. We have only to inquire what story the churches tell. If we find, near the clustered homes, the spires pointing heavenward, we know that the people are God fearing, and that our lives, our homes and our property are safe.

In soil and climate, nature has been very kind to Washington Township, and from Decoto on the north to Warm Springs on the south, Churches are everywhere found.

More than one hundred years ago, the first Church was erected at Mission San Jose. In this adobe building the early fathers told of a Savior to the dwellers in the valley who came for many miles to worship. This old Mission Church with its low earthen walls and tile roof, has now become historic, and, in 1869 a modern and commodious building took its place. Here also the Congregationalists have a very pretty church building erected about 1883.

In Warm Springs the old school house serves as a place of worship for the devout people of that town.

In Irvington only one church remains, that of the Christian denomination, the church of the Latter Day Saints having been destroyed by fire some two years since.

Newark rejoices in the possession of two fine church



FIRST CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR CHURCH.

buildings which furnish ample accommodations for the good people of that bustling, thriving little town.

In Centreville the catholics have a fine church edifice with sittings for several hundreds of worshippers. There are also in this pretty village, Episcopal and Presbyterian churches, both well filled on Sundays. The Presbyterian church built originally of brick, was badly demoralized by the earthquake of 1868, and replaced shortly after by the present building. Here to in early days a Methodist church was erected, but from various causes did not flourish; the membership decreased, until no congregation could be gathered, and the building was disposed of and is now doing duty as a paint shop.

A somewhat similar experience was had by the Methodists in Alvarado, except that the building is used as a saloon.—This misuse of a church building did not leave the dwellers in this thrifty town without church privileges, for a modest structure surrounded by the emblematic cross tells the pious Catholic where he may worship, while a more pretentious edifice with its spire pointing heavenward, shelters the Presbyterian flock.

In Niles the Catholics have a neat little church. In 1896 an Episcopal church was built, but has been little used. The Congregationalists in Niles have during the past year enlarged and improved their church building which is now tasty and convenient.

The newest of the churches in the township is the Con-

gregational church in Decoto Commenced in 1896, and not yet entirely finished. This is the first, and we believe, the only Christian Endeavor Church in California.

These fifteen churches ought surely, to furnish a sabbath home for all who wish to worship.

In every town and village a house of God. Who will say that they, with their congregations gathering each sabbath day, do not exert a mighty influence for good, encouraging to virtue and restraining to vice and crime. How great that influence may be, only the All wise can fully know.

Have I not satisfactorily answered the question asked in the beginning of this article "is Washington Township a good place in which to live."

JOHN H. HAYES.

### TOWNSHIP EXPENSES.

**F**ROM statistics we glean the following figures regarding the expenditures for conducting the schools, justice courts and keeping the roads in good condition in Washington Township. It requires a large sum to keep up the fifteen schools and broad roads of which this township can boast, and the amount expended is no more than is required to make our schools and roads equal to any in this State:

#### SCHOOL EXPENSE 1897

Alvarado	-	\$2,904 65	Newark	-	\$2,453 33
Alviso	-	1,864 48	Niles	-	2,814 45
Centreville	-	3,759 53	Rosedale	-	662 75
Decoto	-	2,629 38	Stoney Brook	-	416 51
Lincoln	-	726 00	Sheridan	-	765 71
Mission	-	2,925 97	Washington	-	4,185 60
Mowry's Landing		778 80	Warm Springs		2,225 86
Union High School		5,138 44	Total	-	35,243 46



RESIDENCE - A. B. MONTROSS - IRVINGTON.

#### ROAD EXPENSE 1897

Alvarado	-	\$11,816 61	Centreville	-	\$4,558 71
Decoto	-	2,281 85	Mission	-	4,815 61
Newark	-	2,612 69	Niles	-	4,684 29
Washington	-	7,829 68	Total	-	38,599 44

#### JUSTICE COURT 1897

Fees for Arrests	\$191 00	Mileage	-	\$742 30
Fares for Prisoners	85 40	Meals for Prisoners	61 75	
Summoning Jury	36 00	Serving Subpoenas	99 00	
Necessary Expenses	2 70	Total	-	1,218 15
				Grand Total 57,061 05

The County Indigents costs our tax payers a good round sum of money each year. During 1897 Supervisor Wells expended in this way \$3,805 10 His district covers however; both Washington and Murray townships. During the previous year, the same district under the supervision of Supervisor Bailey, cost our tax payers the sum of \$4,762 00. Supervisor Wells has made a saving in this line of nearly one thousand dollars, having weeded out a number who had no right to call for such charity.



## FOR TAX COLLECTOR,

**J**AMES B. BARBER, our present County Tax Collector, is a candidate for re-election. His administration of public affairs has been such as to be an honor to himself and the Republican party to which he belongs.



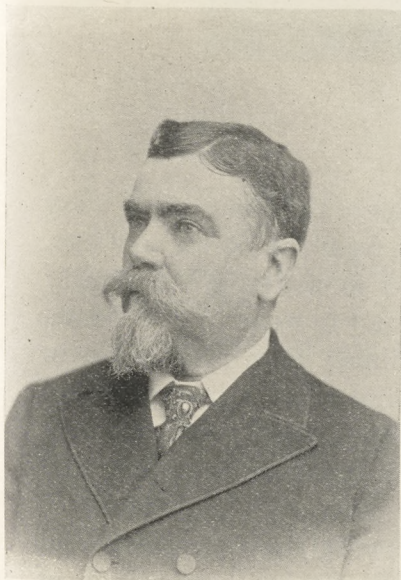
JAMES B. BARBER.

He was born in Maryland November 9, 1850, and moved with his parents to Alameda county in December, 1853. He received his education in our grammar schools, and at the age of 20 started out in life. In 1886 was appointed a deputy assessor under Mollo, and two years later was elected Tax Collector of Alameda county. In 1890 was elected City Treasurer of Alameda for a two year term, and in 1892 was re-elected, having no opponent.

In 1890 was elected County Tax Collector by a majority of 2700 votes. In 1878 was married to Miss Anna M. Cook. In fraternal circles he is very well known, as he belongs to Oak Grove Lodge, No. 215, F. & A. M.; Carita Chapter No. 115, Order of Eastern Star; Alameda Lodge No. 49, K. of P.

## FOR SHERIFF.

**V**ERY few men in official life in this county are better known than Under Sheriff W. S. Harlow. He is for all that one of the most quiet and unobtrusive men holding public office, and he has applied himself so closely to his official duties that he has become an exceedingly valuable attache, serving through five administrations of the office of Sheriff, irrespective of their political affiliations. He was appointed Under Sheriff by Harry N. Morse in 1875, and was re-appointed by Jeremiah Tyrell, Charles McCleverty (Dem), W. E. Hale, W.



W. S. HARLOW.

H. H. Hussey, Robert McKillican (Dem), Caton B. White, (Pop). Mr. Harlow is a native of Nantucket. His boyhood days were spent, however, in Troy, N. Y., where he attended the public schools, and from which he entered Greenwich Academy, near Albany, where he remained three years, and then came to this State, arriving here in February, 1853. On his arrival here he surrendered to the allurements of gold mining, and was engaged in that pursuit for a time in Butte county, but having a natural

taste for newspaper work, drifted into that business later on, remaining in it until he accepted the appointment of Under Sheriff in November, 1875. Mr. Harlow has been a resident of Oakland twenty-eight years. During his residence in Alameda county his quiet, genial and obliging ways have won for him the respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

## FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

**O**NE of the best known and respected young men of Alameda county is Henry Alexander Melvin of Oakland. Born in Springfield, Illinois Sept. 28, 1865 he passed his earlier life in that state, when he came to California, and for three years lived at St. Helena, Napa county. He then moved to Oakland where he entered the Franklin Grammar school and later the Oakland High school, graduating successfully from both. He then entered the California University and in 1889 graduated with the degree of Ph. B, and also a commission of 1st Lieutenant of the military company. In 1892 he passed successfully an examination of the Law department of the California University and shortly after became Justice of the Peace of Brooklyn township, where he filled an unexpired term. He was re-elected in 1893 but resigned to take a position as assistant District Attorney where he has since remained, the most of the time acting as Prosecuting Attorney of the Police Court but has handled several important cases in the Superior Court. He was one of the prosecuting officers of the famous Hill murder case as well as several other important cases.



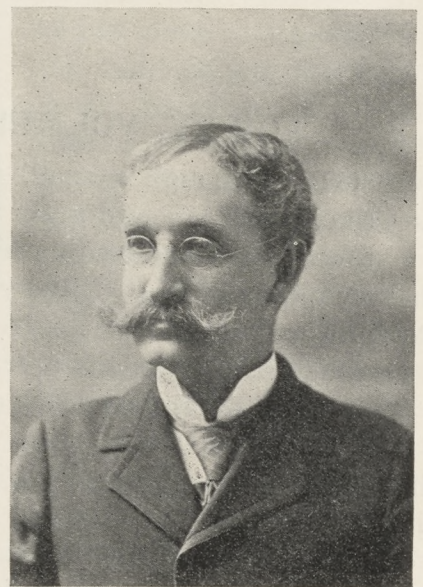
HENR A. MELVIN.

He now seeks the office of District Attorney of Alameda county and to attain his end will work diligently for the office. His past record is a great help to him and his chances for getting the office is exceedingly good.

## THOMAS C. HUXLEY.

**I**T is an old saying, "nothing succeeds like success," but to achieve success requires perseverance and ability. The successful career of Mr. T. C. Huxley of Centreville, amply proves his possession of these two necessary qualities.

He is a native of New York City and came to California in 1875, since which time he has resided and practiced law in Alameda county. The large number of friends and acquaintances made by him during his twenty-three years residence in Centreville is ample proof of the appreciation of his ability and sterling qualities. He enjoys a very large practice and is noted for being one of the most careful and painstaking lawyers in Alameda county. He is of a retiring disposition, seldom leaving his library, to which he seems wedded. Mr. Huxley is one of the leading members of Alameda Lodge No. 167, F. and A. M.



THOMAS C. HUXLEY.

He owns a fine residence near the centre of town and with his wife and babies enjoys a life just suited to his tastes and temperament. His law practice is steadily increasing and he is fast becoming a leader of the profession in Alameda county.



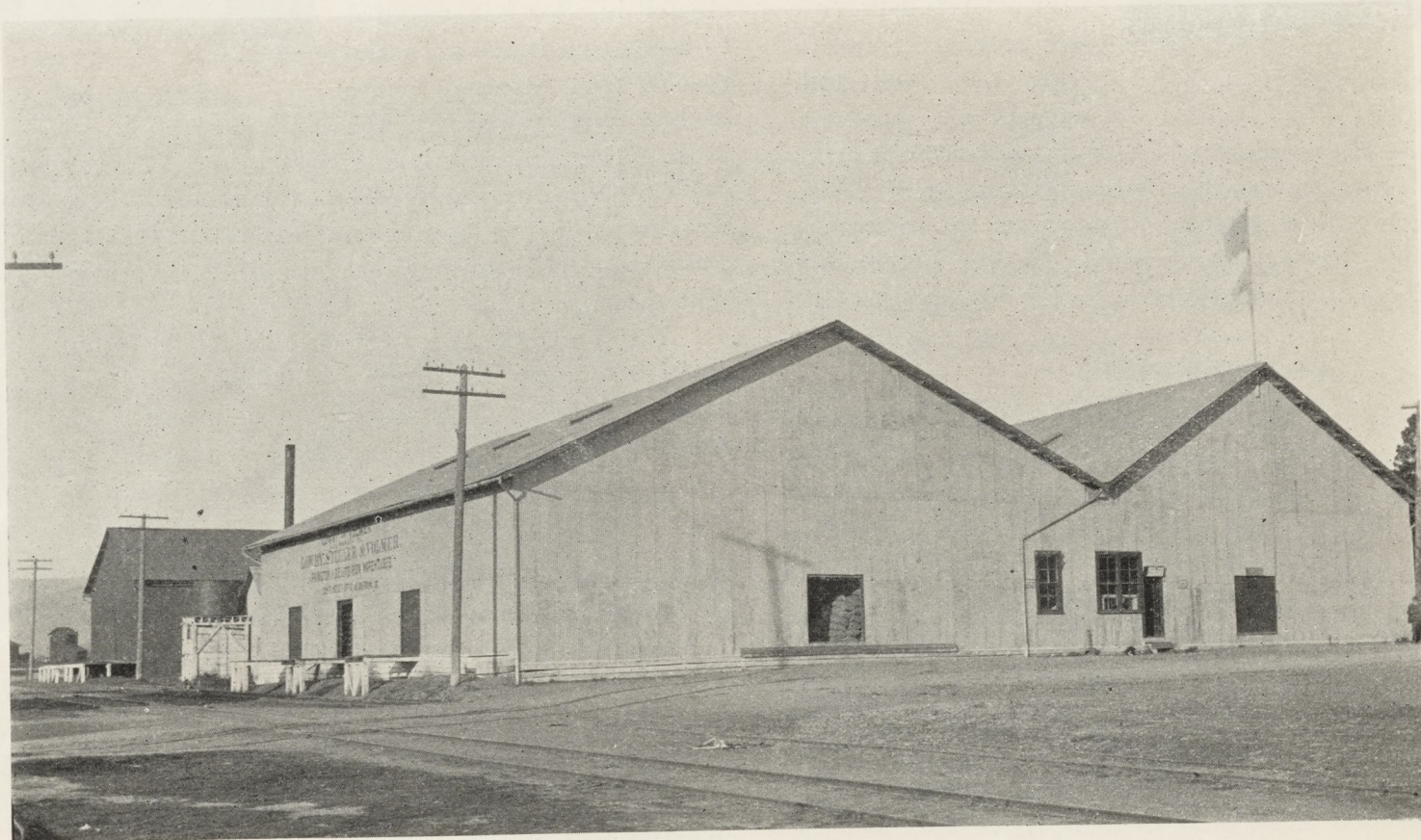
**LOWRY & VOLMER.**

OUR special edition would not be complete without a short "write-up" of Lowry & Volmer, the proprietors of the Irvington Iron Warehouses. The firm consists of W. G. Lowry and R. Volmer, who conduct a general warehouse business, second to none in the county. The business was established in 1856 and has been steady in its growth ever since. The storage buildings are all covered in with corrugated iron, making them almost fire proof. The grain warehouse has a capacity of 5,000 tons, and the hay warehouse 1,000 tons.

In connection with the warehouse business they have a first class feed mill with a capacity of 50 tons daily and a cleaning mill with a capacity of 200 tons daily. The storage depot for the Sperry Flour Mill is located in the building, and from this point is sent out to all portions of the township. The Western Union Telegraph Company's office is situated in the business office and is under the charge of Mr. W. T. Hale, the genial clerk for the firm. They are agents for the Deering Harvesting Machines and carry a full line of extras. Their warehouse business is very large, as they handle nearly all of the hay and grain raised in the western portion of Washington township.

**IDEAL HOME FACILITIES.**

WHEN a change of home is contemplated, as a matter of course, the parties hope and expect to benefit themselves by the change, and generally devote much time, and oftentimes considerable money as well, trying to find a place which contains all the necessary requisites, to the making of an ideal home. These conditions include a fertile soil, mild climate, the advantage of contiguous schools and churches, means of rapid communication with the near-by cities and markets; and most important of all, congenial people, whose influence will tend to uplift and elevate the home life; for a happy home is typical of the heaven above us, and the making of these conditions in our homes should be our first consideration. The influence of a happy home life and pleasant surroundings upon the minds of growing children is beyond calculation. Fortunately for Washington township these conditions exist in a remarkable degree in each and every town, and those contemplating a change could not do better than to make a home in this particular part of God's own country. The soil is of the very best, capable of producing all kinds of semi-tropical fruits, as well as those of the temperate zones, and all kinds of cereals. The climate is of a uniform character; neither too hot or too



WAREHOUSES - LOWRY &amp; VOLMER - IRVINGTON.

**LOWRY, VOLMER & PERRY.**

DECOTO although a small town, can boast of having the largest hay and grain warehouses in Washington township. The leading firm in that line of business, is that composed of W. G. Lowry, R. Volmer and Charles J. Perry, who own the Decoto Iron Warehouses. The firm was established in 1890, and a very large business is carried on. The grain warehouse has a capacity of 5,000 tons and the hay warehouse 1,000 tons. They have in connection with their warehouse business a Feed-mill, with a daily capacity of 50 tons. The cleaning mill can dispose of 200 tons per day, thus allowing the firm to send to the San Francisco market only the finest of wheat and barley.

They are agents for several of the leading Insurance Companies and do a large business in that line.

Mr. C. J. Perry is the genial clerk of the firm, and is ever ready to attend to the wants of his many customers.

The firm has an office in San Francisco and is kept posted in regard to all crop reports from all parts of the State.

cold, the heat of the interior portions of the State being very greatly modified by the trade-winds from the ocean and bay. In point of educational qualifications we are most bountifully provided, having public schools second to none in the State, besides one High School and a Seminary for young ladies in Irvington. Our public roads are under the supervision of competent road overseers and are kept in perfect order, being sprinkled in summer, therefore they are a delight to travel over. They are graced on either side at a short distance apart by thrifty looking homes, showing the enterprise and ambition of their owners by their beautiful surroundings of fruit and shade trees, flowers and lawns; the whole forming a picture most pleasing to the eye of all and especially to those who are seeking a place in which to make an ideal home. We invite a comparison with any other portion of the State, feeling assured that the decision will be in our favor, all things considered, and also feel that we will be pardoned for the just pride we have expressed for our incomparable township. Seeing is believing and a visit at any time cannot fail to convince the most skeptical.



## A PROSPEROUS LODGE.

MISSION Peak Lodge, No. 114, I. O. O. F., is without doubt one of the most prosperous lodges in Alameda county. It was instituted at Irvington on June 27, 1863, and from its very conception has been a prosperous and well governed body of Brothers. At that time Crusade Lodge, No. 93, of Alvarado was the only Odd Fellows Lodge in the eastern portion of Alameda county. Brothers living at Irvington, thought there was a good field for a new Lodge, and decided to form one. They attended Crusade Lodge one evening with the full determination to take out their withdrawal cards, but all but one were talked out of the idea by Alvaradoites. Mr. H. Crowell said he went down for that purpose, and he then and there applied for his card which was reluctantly granted. Thus the ball was started, and in a few weeks time a number of the brothers asked for, and were granted their withdrawal cards. A subscription list was circulated in Irvington and in a very short time nearly a thousand dollars was donated for the purpose of building a hall. Following is a list of the names and amounts subscribed:

E. J. Niehaus	-	-	\$100	R. J. Horner	-	10
O. W. Morgan	-	-	50	H. A. Starks	-	10
N. Bergman	-	-	100	A. O. Rix	-	20
T. B. Beazell	-	-	25	Jas. Beazell	-	25
C. Harris	-	-	25	O. B. Stilwell	-	10
R. Rucklidge	-	-	25	J. Trimmingham	-	10
A. Jackson	-	-	20	H. Dusterberry	-	10
H. Crowell	-	-	60	S. A. Miller	-	10
A. J. McDavid	-	-	10	B. S. Marston	-	10
O. Wilson	-	-	25	J. T. Walker	-	100
J. Salz	-	-	50			
E. L. Beard	-	-	25			
H. Vanbebin	-	-	20			
R. Favelle	-	-	25			
P. A. Hickley	-	-	20			
A. J. Tyler	-	-	20			
Ehrman & Bachman	-	-	5			
J. W. Musser	-	-	10			
S. Weston	-	-	10			
H. Hagen	-	-	20			
O. A. Palmer	-	-	20			
J. Doirance	-	-	10			
R. B. Donivan	-	-	10			
H. Eggers	-	-	5			
A. M. Church	-	-	15			
Capt. Tibbitts	-	-	2			
M. Hamilton, recording deed,			15			
G. Zeigenfus	-	-	11			

The total amount raised was \$948.

A fine lot with a frontage of 50 feet, was donated by Mr. G. M. Walters, and work on the edifice was started and pushed to completion. The building cost something like \$2500. The lower floor was rented as a store, while the upper floor was used for lodge purposes. The lower picture on this page will give an idea of the appearance of the old building.

The Lodge was instituted with the following Charter Members: B. S. Marston, J. Salz, H. Crowell, J. T. Walker, O. W. Morgan, O. Wilson, E. Niehaus, C. Harris, J. M. Murphy, R. Rucklidge. Strange to relate the old hall was never dedicated to the purposes of Odd Fellowship.

Lodge grew to such proportions that the accommo-

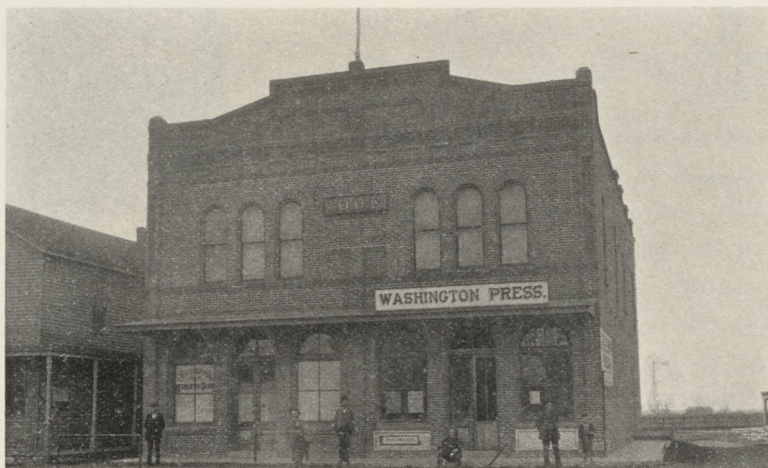
dations were altogether too limited, and in the early part of 1890, a new hall was talked of and finally decided upon. The new structure, of which the upper picture on this page is a true likeness, was built of brick with all modern improvements, and is considered by visiting brothers to be one of the finest buildings and well appointed lodge rooms in the interior of the State. The new edifice cost Mission Peak Lodge \$6100.

The new hall was dedicated October 8, 1890, by Grand Master John Glasson, the beautiful ceremony of the Odd Fellows being used. The upper floor contains a lodge room, library, dining room and kitchen all being of large size and well lighted.

Large crayon pictures of all deceased members, and charter members as well, hang on the walls of the lodge room. The lower floor is cut up into two large stores, one of which is used as the home of the "Washington Press."

Mission Peak Lodge owns the I. O. O. F. Cemetery in Irvington, which consists of 6½ acres of ground situated only a few minutes' walk from the centre of town.

The assets of the lodge, in money, real estate and personal property amounts to between seventeen and twenty thousand dollars.



NEW I. O. O. F. HALL, ERECTED IN 1890.

## AQUA PURA REBEKAH LODGE.

It was owing to the efforts of Mr. A. O. Rix that Aqua Pura Rebekah Lodge, No. 193 was organized. There had been talk of such an organization for some time, but nothing came of it. Finally a special meeting was called of the members of Mission Peak Lodge, together with their wives, daughters and sisters, and arrangements were then made for permanent organization. Aqua Pura Lodge was instituted on the evening of July 19, 1893, by Grand Secretary W. B. Lyon, with 47 charter members.

Invitations had been sent out to the sister lodges of this district, and the ceremony of instituting the new lodge was witnessed by no less than 150 Brothers and Sisters. A banquet followed, and was said by all to be the finest ever given in Irvington, and that was saying a great deal. Speeches of congratulations were made by a number of the visitors, and it was late in the morning ere the new lodge came to a close. Shortly after organization, a Degree staff was formed and Geo. A. Cash, elected captain. Under his supervision the team

perfected themselves in the floor work, and were able to present the Beautified Work in a manner second to none in the State. The team owns a magnificent set of robes and when in marching order presents a beautiful appearance. The Lodge owns a set of fine china dishes and complete banquet outfit for one hundred covers. Parties given; have swelled the entertainment fund to good round proportions. They have money in bank and can be said to be in a very prosperous condition. The Lodge meets in I. O. O. F. Hall on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

The membership now is between eighty-five and ninety

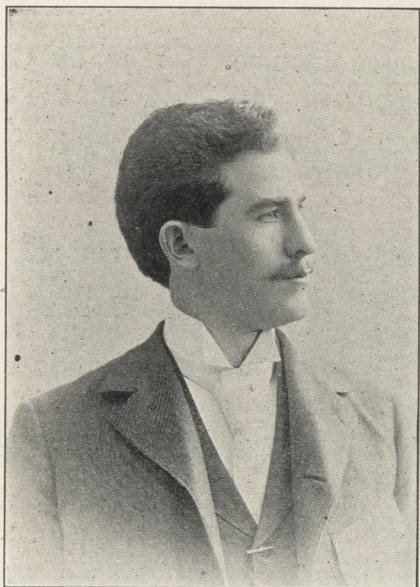


OLD I. O. O. F. HALL, ERECTED IN 1863.



**PETER J. CROSBY.**

**P**ETER J. CROSBY was born in Centreville, March 1, 1872. He attended the public school, when arriving at school age, graduating from the same in June 1888. He then attended the Oakland High School for a year and a half. Then passed the teachers examination and taught the



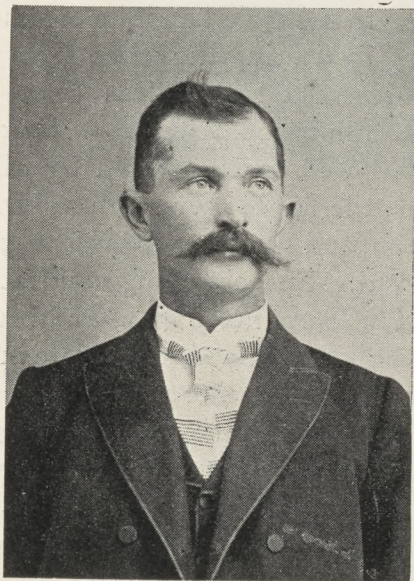
PETER J. CROSBY.

school at Irvington from '91 to '94. During the latter year he entered the Law Department of the University of Michigan. Was elected President of his Class, a great honor in that place of learning. After a years stay returned to San Francisco and resumed his studies in in the office of Long & Dunne. In 1895, passed the examination and was admitted to the Bar. During the years '96 to '98, taught in the public school of Irvington, with great success. At the close of the last school term, he decided to give up

teaching, and entered upon the practice of his chosen profession, associating himself with the firm of Gibson & Woolner in Oakland. Mr. Crosby has endeared himself to the people of Irvington, by his congenial ways and happy disposition.

**FOR COUNTY TREASURER.**

**A**MONG the business men of the beautiful Livermore Valley there are none who occupy a more commanding place in the public estimation than Arthur W. Feidler of Livermore. He is a man of enterprise and has always been prominently identified with every good move that would enhance the upbuilding of prosperity of his community. Mr. Feidler is a native of California and was born in Calaveras county in 1863. He is a leading member of Las Positas Parlor, No. 96, N. S. G. W., a Grand Officer of the order and a prominent Mason.



ARTHUR W. FEIDLER.

His business career in Livermore began in 1890 when he engaged in the livery business, which to-day he is successfully conducting under the name of "The Fashion Stables." He served as a member of the City Board of Trustees of Livermore from May 1894 till the same month in 1898, and during the last term of his administration was made the unanimous choice for Chairman, by virtue of the office entitling him to the Mayoralty of the city. His careful and public spirited administration secured the en-

couragement of the community, and it might be stated as an estimate of his popularity that each time he was elected to trusteeship he ran far ahead of his ticket.

At the coming election Mr. Feidler will ask the Republicans for the nomination of County Treasurer. It is conceded, not only by leading Republicans through Alameda county, that no man in the party has a better right to the honor. The "PRESS" endorses his candidacy.

**A PROGRESSIVE MERCHANT.**

**J**OSEPH HERRSCHER, who conducts a general merchandise store in Centreville, is one of the progressive business men of Alameda county. At the present time he is conducting no less than three stores, his principal place of business being at San Leandro. At Mt.



Eden he has a fine new store, with a stock of goods such as the people of that district require. About six years ago he commenced to do business at Centreville, and at the present time carries a very large stock of groceries, hardware, boots shoes, dry goods, etc. He occupies a large brick building on the main street, and is doing a very lucrative business.

**RIVERSIDE HOTEL.**

**E**VERYONE is familiar with the name of the Riverside Hotel. The fame of this first-class hotel, the only one in Alvarado, is not only confined to Washington township, but has spread throughout the State. The manner in which F. B. Granger & Son conduct the house is such as to cause words of the highest commendation from those who have once made the Riverside Hotel their stopping



RIVERSIDE HOTEL - F. B. GRANGER &amp; SON PROP'S.

place. The table is of the best, and everything pertaining thereto is a model of neatness. At the bar only the finest of wines, liquors and cigars are served the patrons. Large, airy and well kept rooms are a source of comfort to the weary traveler, and such accommodations always mean a second call, and a good word to friends who are likely to journey that way.

This house has been conducted on these lines for the past quarter of a century, and in consequence is doing a large and prosperous business.

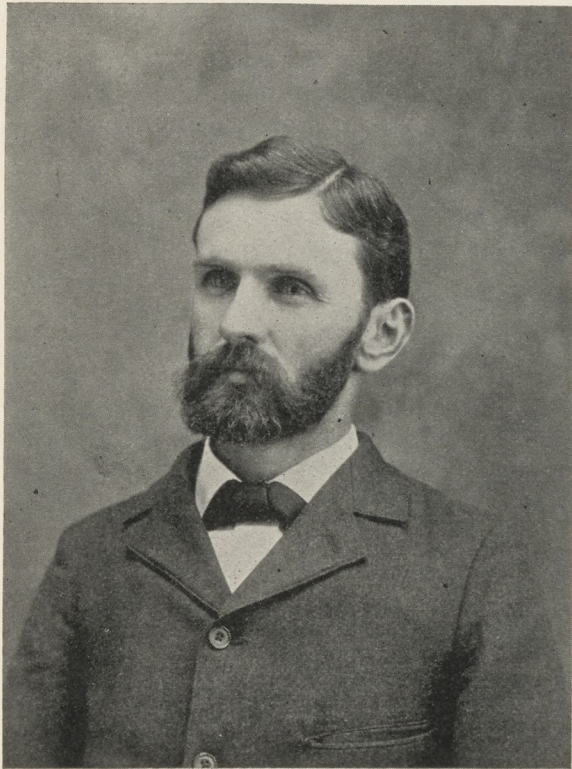
The public schools of Washington township number 14; presided over by 32 competent teachers. The number of scholars enrolled number 1341, with an average daily attendance of 920. Great care is used in hiring good teachers hence excellent work is being done.



### FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

**T**HE office of Superintendent of Schools is one to which the country portion of the county may justly lay claim since the duties of the office are confined almost exclusively to the country schools.

Mr. Lynch's long connection with the schools of the county and his uniform success in his work render him particularly fitted to fulfill the duties of the office intelligently.



H. W. LYNCH.

He is one of the few who has chosen teaching as his life work; and if elected to the position to which he aspires will bring to the work the full energy of firm convictions.

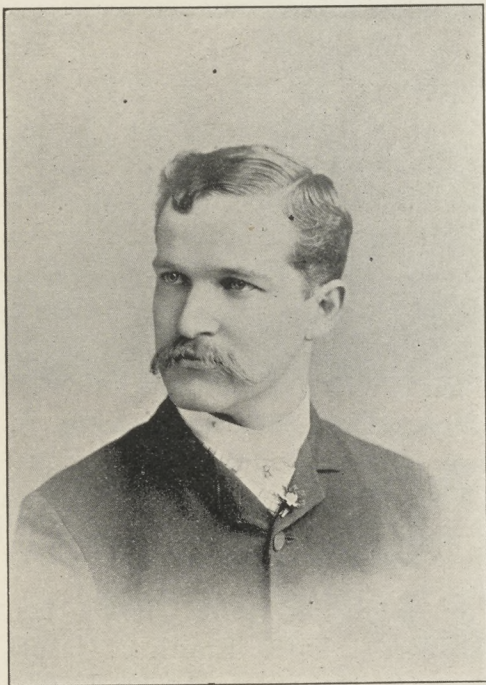
He has been a wide awake member of society, always ready to lend a helping hand, and his many friends will rejoice in his success should he receive the nomination at the hands of the

Republican County Convention.

His name will add strength to the ticket in Washington township, for he is a gentleman in every sense of the word, and has a very large circle of acquaintances.

### FOR COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR.

**M**EN of known ability and integrity are wanted for public offices. Among the candidates who are now before the people is the name of Thomas M. Robinson, who has all of these requirements, and again has the experience, which is so necessary in conducting a county office.



THOMAS M. ROBINSON.

He aspires to the office of County Tax Collector, and will come before the next Republican County Convention, asking them to make him the party nominee.

He has filled several positions of public trust, and his great popularity and efficiency in public business, has made him a large circle of acquaintances.

He now fills the position of Chief Deputy in Assessor Dalton's office, and attends to the very arduous duties with

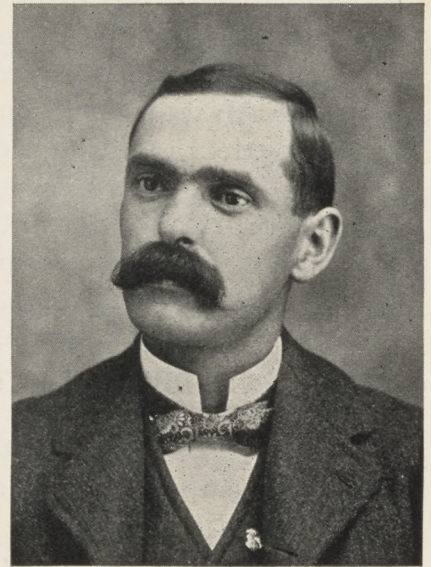
tact, zeal and a constant watchfulness for the welfare of all who have to do business with the County Assessor.

He is a young man, and one who has the respect of his neighbors and the public in general.

### FRANK M. SMITH.

**L**IVE, wide-a-wake men are what is wanted in every community. Among those in this township is Frank M. Smith of Centreville, who has built up a fine trade in the contracting and carpentering business. He is a self made man and has the respect of all.

He was born in Albion, Mendocino Co., California, on December 8, 1868, and with his parents moved to Centreville, when five years of age. He received his education in our public schools, afterwards learning the carpenters trade, which he has followed with great success. In the Legislature of '95 served in a subordinate capacity. He has been a life long Republican and has done valiant work in past campaigns. He has the reputation of staying with his friends, also of calling white, white, and black, black, and in consequence has made strong friends as well as some enemies.



FRANK M. SMITH.

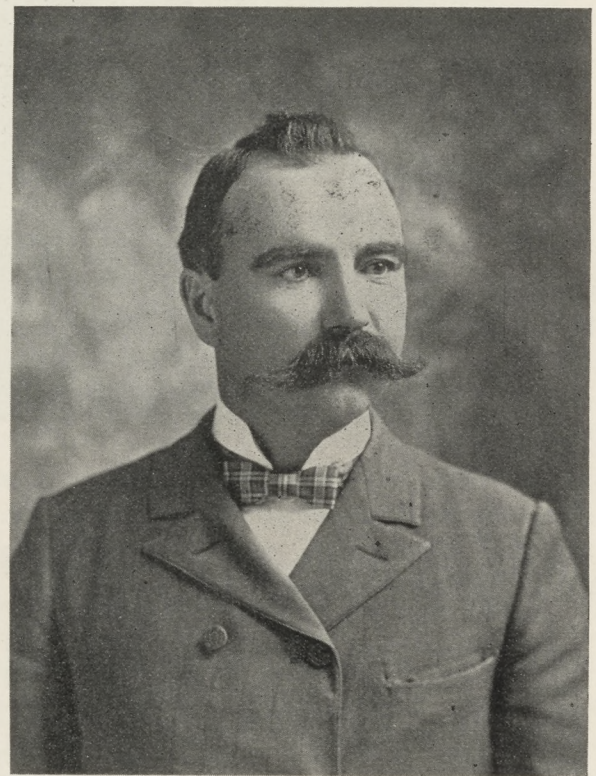
### JOHN G. MATTOS JR.

**S**ELF made men are a scarcity in this township, yet we have several who are making their mark in the world.

Among the number is John G. Mattos of Centreville. He was born in Horta City, Fayal, Azores, August 1, 1864, and emigrated with his family to America in 1879, settling in this township and have made it their home ever since. In 1886 he became a citizen by naturalization,

joined the Republican ranks, and has been an ardent worker ever since. He was elected in '88 Road Overseer of the Centreville District and re-elected in 1890. In '91 was appointed Dep. Assessor, serving 4 years. In '89 was appointed Notary Public and has

been re-appointed by each administration since. In '93 was elected a member of the Centreville School Board, and re-elected in '96. In '95 was elected member of the High School Board and chosen Secretary. In August '97 he passed a successful examination before the Supreme Court, and was admitted to the practice of the Law. In '94 was elected Supreme President of the U. P. E. C., the strongest Portuguese fraternal organization in the State, and was re-elected the following year. In '96 and '97 was elected Supreme Director of same. He is now building up an extensive Law practice, having the respect and confidence of a large circle of friends.



JOHN G. MATTOS JR.



### OUR UNION HIGH SCHOOL.

OUR Union High School was one of the first formed under the High School law passed in 1890, and Mrs. J. E. Thane, who started the first petition, intended that our school should be the first in the State; but it was thought best to withdraw this earlier petition and substitute one for a larger district. The attempt was made to get all the districts in Washington township to join, which succeeded except as to Alvarado and Stony Brook. In the work for this larger district those who had worked for the earlier one lent a willing hand; and Messrs Leonard and Howard Jarvis, John Clark, H. W. Lynch, the late Mr. Patterson and others too numerous to mention also took part.

On September 25, 1891, the trustees of the twelve local school districts met according to law and at the call of the County Superintendent of Schools, at Centreville and after a session lasting most of the day, decided on the eighth ballot to locate the school at Centreville. The present site was soon decided upon and later a subscription was started among residents of Centreville and other districts to purchase two acres of land, and at another time the trustees bought one

State University and getting on the accredited list, at the end of the first full school year. Mr. Wentworth's work was spoken of with the greatest enthusiasm by the University examiners, and our school was known thus early in its life as one of the best if not the very best of the High Schools in the State.

The contract for the new building was let November 5, 1892 and during this and the next year some \$9,500 was spent on the main building, furnace, gas machine, desks, laboratory and other permanent fixtures and supplies and insurance; and during 1894 and 1895 there was spent on the tank house, sheds and fence about \$1,500 more, thus making the permanent improvements and insurance on the same in all about \$10,500.

The first graduating exercises were held June 3, 1893, Miss May Burdick being the sole graduate. The next graduating class, that of '93 consisted of Will P. Jarvis and Dan Crosby, and by another year there were seven—Ezra W. Decoto, Jos. R. Jarvis, Clarence E. Martenstein, Jas. R. Whipple, Literary Course; Chas. Fitz-H. Jarvis, Manuel S. Quadros and Laura M. Thane, Scientific Course. At Christ-



UNION HIGH SCHOOL, NO. 2 - CENTREVILLE.

acre more, making the three now owned by the High School.

The first Board of Trustees consisted of the following gentlemen: John Silva, J. W. Robertson, Edwin Whipple, Emery Munyon, L. F. Jarvis, H. A. Mayhew, Geo. Cash, Geo. Ryan, Wm. More, Pat Donohoe, A. Lebrecht, C. F. Bos. Mr. Mayhew was chosen President of the Board and Mr. Jarves, Clerk. Since that time the following have served as President: Jos. Tyson, J. C. Shinn and the present incumbent, J. C. Mowry. The Clerks have been: J. G. Mattos, and the present incumbent, Mrs. Mary C. Allen.

School began January 11, 1892, in the Masonic building with Mr. Wm. H. Wentworth, a graduate of California University as Principle and Miss Guliema R. Crocker from the same college as assistant.

The attendance, which is now 68, was but 22, of all grades of advancement, making nearly as many classes as at present. This made a pretty difficult job for the two teachers, but Mr. Wentworth, however, proved to have great ability as an organizer and teacher, and our school made the record, which has never been equaled in the State, to my knowledge, of giving preparation for all the courses of the

mas of this year Olive Lamb was graduated.

The class of '95 consisted of eight graduates: Classical Course, Max L. McCollough and Mabel Yates; Literary Course, Leonard B. Jarvis, M. J. Overacker and Annie M. Sandholdt; Scientific, Jos. B. Haines, Eugene Mathews and Bart L. Thane.

The class of '96 had twelve graduates as follows: Harry W. Salz, Arthur W. Yates, Fred Robertson, Kate B. Ellsworth, Constance Rose, Classical; John R. Blacow, Mary Louise Olney, Stella Therese Healey, Bert F. Moody, Arthur W. Haley, Literary; Henry H. Patterson and Geo. I. Emerson, Scientific.

The class of '97 graduated nine: Jessie L. Baird, Blanche E. Blacow, Hubert C. Eller, Frank C. Garcia, Florence May Haines, Henry S. Haines, Literary; Louis A. Decoto, Elvis G. Wood, and Antone F. Dutre, Scientific.

At the graduating exercises of this year, 1898, the following received Diplomas: Mary Alice Connors, Rob Roy Denny, Gertrude Alice Gibbons, Florence Trevitt Hudson, Elbert Abram Hugill, Florence Marie Mayhew, Kenneth Franklin Reynolds, Mily Osgood Rix and Francis John



Girard had honorable mention as a special student.

The reputation of our school is so high now that the University sent no examiners this year except for Miss Harris' classes and as it is learned un-officially that they were well pleased with her work, our school will stand fully accredited, and all that these graduates need for entrance to either of the two big universities is a letter of recommendation from Mr. Liddeke.

In May, 1893, Miss Martha A. Brier, a graduate of the University of California, class of '92, was employed, as there



RESIDENCE - A. O. RIX - IRVINGTON

was need of a third teacher. Mr. Wentworth resigned in July, 1893, and Mr. Charles L. Turner, a graduate of the University of California, class of '92, with the degree of A. B., was elected to the principalship and in July, 1894, Miss Maida Castelhun, graduate of the University of California, Class of '94 with Degree of B. L. was elected in place of Miss Brier; but as Miss Castelhun had accepted an election at Santa Cruz, before she received notification of election here, she had to resign, and Miss Inez Robinson, graduate of the University of California, class of '93 with degree of B. L., was elected to fill the vacancy.

In July 1893, a Commercial Course was added, making a fourth teacher necessary to keep up the standard of the school, and Miss Castelhun was elected to the position and was made Vice-Principal.

In July, 1896, Mr. Frederick Liddeke, a graduate of Kansas University and Harvard, A. B. degree, was elected



RESIDENCE - JAMES G. FAIR ESTATE - NEWARK.

Principal, and Miss Minnie Beatrice Reynolds, graduate of University of California, class of '94, with A. B. degree, was elected and given the Greek and Latin, Miss Castelhun taking the English and History and Miss Crocker the Science and Commercial studies. The Principal had the Physics and Mathematics.

This faculty proved to be a strong combination and the year '96-7 was one of signal triumph for our school, for we were fully accredited in all our work, and as there are only two High Schools in the State that give more studies than we do, *viz* the Lowell in San Francisco and the Oakland, it made a pretty good showing for a small country school.

Many of the big schools were refused accrediting this year in from three to five subjects; and in English especially did we score a triumph. Mr. Liddeke's work in Physics was spoken of with especial praise and was accredited with honor.

Our High School prepares for all of the fourteen colleges and departments at Berkeley or for any other institution in the country except Harvard, about six months more work being required for entrance there. The course of study is broad and well balanced, and while it prepares for college, it is at the same time the best for the pupils who do not go to college, for educators say that the college preparation develops the faculties and mind for all walks in life in a more systematic and thorough way than any other course yet devised.

In July 1897 all the teachers were re-elected except Miss Reynolds, who had been given a fellowship at Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania. Miss Castelhun was given a leave of absence for half a year; so Miss Grace A. Johnson and Miss Lalla Harris were elected to the two vacancies. Miss Harris had done a years' work at Radcliffe College and had had a years' successful experience in teaching at the Grafton High School, Massachusetts

Miss Johnson resigned at the end of the first half year, but the Trustees were fortunate enough to be able to retain



MARTIN HOUSE - J. J. MARTIN, PROP. - NILES.

Miss Harris, and with her as a teacher of Greek and Latin and Miss Castelhun in her old place with the English, Mr. Liddeke with the Physics and Mathematics and Miss Crocker with the Science and Commercial studies, it does not take much of a prophet to foretell one of the most successful half years that the school ever had. All of these teachers have had experience and have proved themselves successful; and such teachers can plan the work more wisely and get a larger amount of work done without friction than can possibly be done by beginners.

I predict a great future for our High School, for in this rich and populous region, where people have always been loyal and liberal in supporting it, it is certain to get a larger and larger proportion of the graduates of the various Grammar Schools, until when electric roads are built, connecting the principal towns, the number in the school will increase until even the large building we now possess will be too small. If we can hold the school up to the high standard of work done in the year 1896-7 we shall always have a school that we can be proud of.

J. C. SHINN.

The assessed valuations of Washington township for the year 1897, as per data furnished us by Deputy Assessor Ed. Ellsworth, amounts to \$5,205,350 apportioned as follows:

Real Estate .....	\$3,910,600
Improvements.....	887,200
Personal Property.....	407,550



## NILES CANYON.

WHAT person living about the Bay has not heard of this noted spot? It is a natural pass through which the railroad runs to reach Sacramento, which years ago was used as the main Overland line. None of its picturesqueness has been lost in later years and it is still full of panoramic surprises. The gorge is often grand and always beautiful, combining the enchantments of view in the swift flowing stream which rushes through its bed, and precipitous embankments covered with ferns and a wonderful growth of natural foliage. It is an ideal spot to spend a summer outing, and during the heated term it is the home of many people from our cities, who pitch their tent beside the winding stream and under the shade of leafy sycamore, oak and other



NILES PICNIC GROUNDS - J. B. BARNARD PROP.

beautiful trees, and pass their vacation in nature's stillness.

Nearly at the mouth and in the most lovely locality of the canyon, is the Niles Canyon Picnic grounds, reached by a two minutes ride from the junction town of Niles. Not a more charming spot exists in the State than these grounds. Being fitted up with every convenience—a pavillion for dancing, a well fitted up restaurant, bath-house and a convenient landing place for the small boats, the camper or picnic party can find no better place than the Niles Canyon Picnic Grounds. Mr. J. B. Barnard, a well-known Niles gentleman, has but lately taken charge of the grounds, but during his short proprietorship has demonstrated his capability for conducting a most orderly retreat.

## A THRIVING BUSINESS.

CONDUCTED on strictly business principles, is the Livery Stable and Saloon owned by Mr. J. B. Barnard and located in adjoining buildings on the main street of Niles. Mr. Barnard believes that to get trade is to

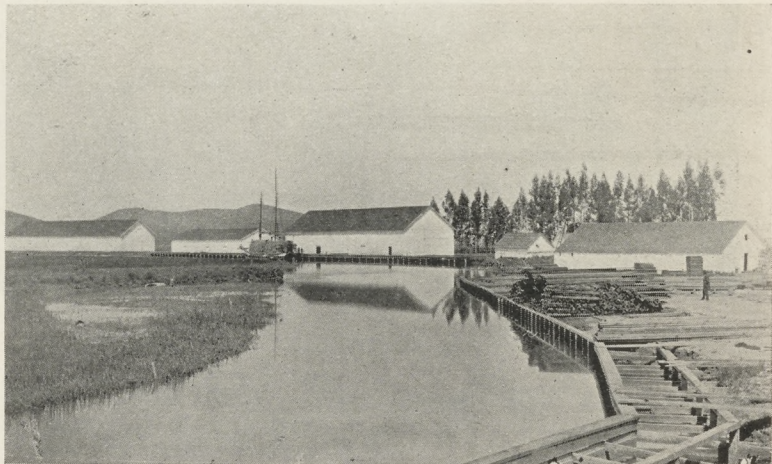


LIVERY STABLE - J. B. BARNARD PROP. - SALOON.

treat customers in a gentlemanly manner, and to hold it by never deviating from the rule. The horses and conveyances in the stable are all good, and patrons are always sure to receive satisfactory and prompt service at all times. As to his saloon, it is a model of neatness and an orderly resort where none but gentleman congregate.

## PIONEER ASSOCIATION.

WM. BARRY of Niles was the first of our early settlers to propose the formation of a Pioneer Association. He and W. M. Liston published a notice in the *Independent* of November 11, 1876, calling a meeting of the pioneers of the township. The first meeting was held on Thanksgiving day of the same year at Centreville and organization perfected. Geo. W. Bond was elected President; L. E. Osgood Treasurer and William Barry Secretary. All residents of Washington Township who were in California prior to March 26, 1853, also the sons of pioneers over the age of twenty-one years of age, were eligible to membership. The practical object of the society is to form a social rallying point once each year, at which time they partake of a banquet and talk



JARVIS LANDING NEAR NEWARK.

over the past and discuss what the future has in store for the few remaining of those who helped to organize the association.

## JARVIS' LANDING.

OUR township is blessed with shipping facilities both by rail and water, there being several landings on the Bay in the extreme western part of the township. The most important, and in fact the only one doing any considerable business at the present day, is Jarvis' Landing, located near Newark. Schooners of quite large size easily land here and discharge and take on their cargoes of lumber, hay, grain and onions.

## EATON &amp; CO.

FAVORABLY and well known throughout this township is the Furniture Store conducted by Eaton & Co. at Irvington. Starting with a small capital and in a little shop, the business has grown steadily until now the firm oc-



EATON &amp; CO. FURNITURE STORE - IRVINGTON.

cupies its own building, one of the largest in Irvington, and carries as large an assortment of furniture, carpets, wall-paper, paints, etc. as can be found in Alameda county. The firm is known from one end of Washington township to the other for fairness in dealing and goods of a standard quality.

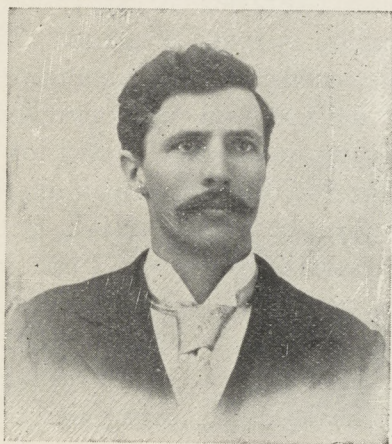


## ASSEMBLYMAN J. W. CLARK.

HON. JAMES W. CLARK, our present Assemblyman, was born in San Francisco, Sept. 4, 1868, and has been a resident of Washington Township for many years. He was educated in the public schools, University of California and Hastings College of Law.

Mr. Clark gained distinction at College as a debater, representing his University in both the "Carnot" and Inter-Collegiate debates in the same year, and was a member of the debating team that lowered Stanford's colors in '95, and brought victory to the Blue and Gold for the first time.

He has always been an enthusiastic Republican, and was nominated by that party for the Assembly in 1896. He made an extremely vigorous campaign, and polled a tremendous vote. Although his Democratic opponent was endorsed by the populists, Mr. Clark came within three votes of doubling that of his opponent, the largest majority ever made in the district.



HON. JAMES W. CLARK.

Mr. Clark's hobby was road improvement, and he succeeded in being appointed chairman of the Roads and Highways Committee. He drafted and secured the passage of the Clark Road Law, which, on a technicality was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

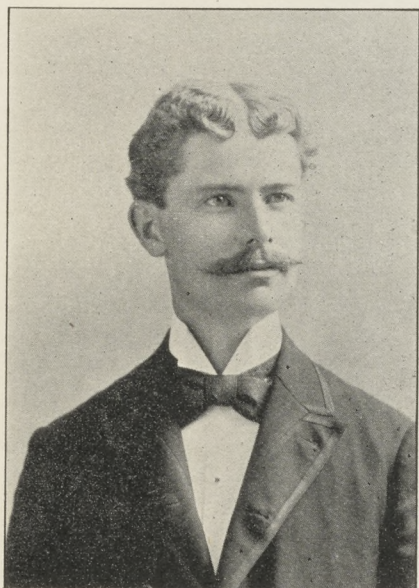
As Chairman of the Road Committee, Mr. Clark had charge of the "Wide Tire Act" which is now a law.

At Sacramento Mr. Clark established a reputation as a hard-working legislator.

Jim Clark, as he is familiarly called, is a candidate for Public Administrator, subject to the decision of the Republican County Convention.

## DR. J. H. DURHAM.

THE subject of this sketch is the son of Prof. J. Durham of Irvington, and is a young man who will make his mark in the world. He is not a Native Son, although he assures his friends that he couldn't help it. He was born in Illinois, and since 1884 has been a resident of Irvington.



DR. J. H. DURHAM.

His father being an educator of wide experience, was an important factor in the young man's early education. In 1888 the Doctor graduated from the Commercial Department of Washington College, of which his father was President for a number of years. Three years later he completed the academic course of the same institution. He then decided to take up dentistry as his chosen profession and entered the office of Dr. F. Z. Pickey at Colusa, where he studied six months. In the fall of 1893 he entered the Dental Department of the

University of California and after taking a three years course of study, graduated with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery.

He has an office in the Ford Building in the center of town and has one of the best appointed offices in the county, everything being strictly "up to date."

## FOR COUNTY CORONER.

DR. H. B. Mehrmann, the subject of this sketch, is well known throughout Alameda county, having resided here during the past twenty-four years. Three years of this time he practiced his profession in Pleasanton, the remaining twenty-one years have been spent in Oakland where he now resides.

The doctor is a native of Wisconsin and arrived in this State when quite young, coming from Chicago with his parents. He received his education in the public schools and in the old Sackett school, formerly quite an institution of learning in the city of Oakland. From the academic school he entered the California Medical College from which he graduated at the head of his class, after a four-year course; receiving his diploma in 1885. Since his graduation he has been quite a successful practitioner and at the present time enjoys a lucrative practice.

For many years he was a professor in the College which gave him birth, at different times filling the Chairs of Anatomy, Physiology, Hygiene and Nervous diseases.

He is a prominent member of the Nile Club, the Reliance Athletic Club, Oak Leaf Lodge, A. O. U. W.; Oakland Grove U. A. O. D.; and Oak Leaf Council, O. C. F..

In politics Doctor Mehrmann is a lifelong Republican, and at this time aspires to be Coroner of Alameda County. He will place his fate in the hands of the next Republican County Convention, and if honored by that body with the nomination, will add great strength to the ticket.

He is thoroughly qualified to fill the position and if elected, which he certainly will be if nominated, he will conduct the office to the entire satisfaction of the people of the County and with credit to himself.



DR. H. B. MEHRMANN.

## FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

ONLY men of a progressive nature and sound business tact can succeed as has Justice of the Peace S. Sandholdt, the subject of this sketch. He was born in

Denmark, June 19, 1852, and left for America in the year '69, landing in San Francisco on June 1st of the same year. He left for this side of the Bay and has been a resident ever since. He became an American citizen in the due course of time, identifying himself with the Republican party, of which he is quite proud. He has been the railroad agent for the past ten years and is also agent for Wells Fargo & Co.

He has been twice elected Justice, and will be a candidate for the office at the coming election, and will without doubt be honored with the Republican nomination.



S. SANDHOLDT.



### EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

IN 1797 when the kind old Spanish Padres founded the historic Mission San Jose on the gentle western slope of Mission Peak some three hundred feet above sea level, they selected one of the most beautiful spots in our Pacific States. From the quaint old portico, extended westward a most exquisite view; waving grain, giant sycamores, oaks, a dozen varieties of trees spread over the valley; the shining



GYMNASIUM - CURTNER SEMINARY - IRVINGTON.

streams, lagoons and sloughs wandered to the perfect bay, beyond which could be seen the Coast Range, clear and blue against the sky. Vast herds of cattle and elk grazed on the luscious waist deep grasses, and thousands of Indians found homes in the foothills. It is recorded that within two short years, a school had been established and that 154 Indian pupils were in attendance. Besides their religious training, they were taught the "thee R's" and music, in which it is said that many of them became quite proficient. A wonderful amount of instruction was also given in domestic lines, weaving, sewing, carpentering, planting and harvesting. Today, this valley is almost all of it included in Washington Township, which is eleven by twelve miles in dimension, and contains 68,066 acres. It wanders well up in the foothills to the north including all of Mission Peak, and its western line is the bay. The valley and hillsides are crowded full of orchards and vineyards, rich broad acres of grain, and ten thousand beautiful homes. We have seven busy towns, fourteen public school districts, nearly twice as many churches, one Union High School, a first class Young Ladies' Seminary, and a Sisters' school. In the proportion of children to the inhabitants, attending school, the cost per capita and high grade of instruction given, we are not excelled by any other Township in the State, which does not contain a city within its borders.

In 1852, Alameda County, its southern border being Alameda Creek, had but one school, with 190 pupils, and one teacher, who received a salary of \$300 a year, a school year being six months. N. W. Brier, in 1853, was elected the first County Superintendent of Alameda County. By 1858, the many disputed County and Township lines had been settled, and

in the first County report thereafter, there were 1174 children registered, 278 average attendance and ten teachers. The salaries aggregated, \$9605 or thirty dollars per child attending. In 1868, ten years later, 4000 children were enrolled, 1500 attended, and there were forty-five teachers with salaries aggregating \$40,000, amounting to twenty dollars per child attending. In 1897, in Washington Township alone, there were fourteen public schools, employing 31 teachers, educating 1709 pupils at a cost of \$37,031, of which \$21,629 was paid for salaries, the cost per capita for average attendance being twenty-five dollars. The value of the public school property is nearly \$70,000 and the value of the libraries is \$7,372. The rate of taxation is 17cts. on \$100. There are twelve male teachers receiving an average salary of \$123 dollars, and nineteen female teachers, receiving an average salary of \$80 per month. Twelve of the fourteen districts have united to form a Union High School, situated in a charming spot in Centerville and about one twentieth of the public school attendance is represented later in the High School. The cost per capita in the High School, is necessarily high, being about fifty dollars.

From statistics it is found that the cost per capita, yearly, for the education of a child, in Washington Township, through the eight public school grades, and four years of high school, averages about thirty dollars a year, or \$360 for twelve years' schooling.

The average years' schooling in this Township means ten months' tuition.

We have a corps of teachers who are a credit to Washington Township, and are ever on the alert to further the interests of higher education. Our Trustees, many of whom have filled their positions year after year, are heart and soul in the good work, and take just pride in their office.

The history of the individual school in this Township would mean the history of each district, so closely knit is



TENNIS COURT - CURTNER SEMINARY - IRVINGTON.

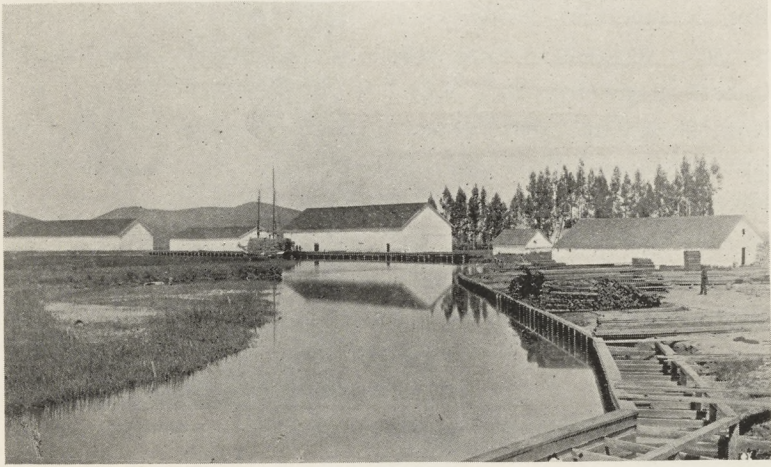
the school life with the growth of our people. The personal sacrifices, the ambitious, faithful workers among parents and trustees have made our school family something to be proud of, to foster and to protect. MRS. J. E. THANE.



### NILES CO-OPERATIVE FRUIT ASSOCIATION.

SEVERAL meetings of fruit growers of Niles and neighboring towns, were held in the spring of 1894, with the idea of forming an association to handle and cure the fruits grown in this section on the co-operative basis, which had at that time been proved a success in other places.

The result of these meetings was the formation of the Niles Co-operative Fruit Association, a corporation with a capital stock of \$30,000 divided into 2000 shares of a par value of \$15 each, shares to be taken by fruit growers only, and on a basis of one share for each acre of drying fruit.



JARVIS LANDING - NEWARK.

The shareholders chose Messrs. Chittenden, Ford, Overacker, Shinn, Sullivan, Tilden and Jos. Tyson for their first board of directors, and on the evening of the 5th of June, 1894, this Board met for the purpose of organization, and the following officers were elected:

H. J. Tilden, President; G. E. Chittenden, Vic-President; C. B. Overacker, Secretary; J. C. Shinn, Treasurer.

These Directors went ahead at once and secured suitable grounds, plant, etc., put up the necessary buildings, and in a very short space of time, during which, on account of the great railroad strike, they worked under great disadvantages, they were ready on the 24th day of July to receive fruit. There was an unusually large crop that year and some 2,000,000 pounds of green fruit was handled by the association, with good results, notwithstanding the extremely low



RESIDENCE - JAMES STANLEY - MISSION SAN JOSE.

prices secured for the cured products, prices that were lower than had been known before.

The second year was opened under the same management with the exception that Messrs. Jacobus and Hudson took the places of Messrs. Chittenden and Tyson, on the board of Directors. This year the crop was very light and the greater portion was sold green. In place of 1,000,000 pounds of green apricots alone, that were received the first year, only 927 pounds were received, and a total of 296,286 pounds of green fruits of all varieties were cured.

The third year H. J. Tilden retired as president, J. C. Shinn taking his place, G. E. Chittenden taking C. B. Overacker's place on the Board and was elected vice-president,

W. H. Ford as treasurer and Geo. H. Hudson as secretary. The receipts of green fruit this year amounted to 627,104.

Two years ago instead of confining the receipts of fruit to that grown by members of the association, it was decided to cure fruit for non-stockholders also, and since then, fruit has been received from growers in Berkeley, San Leandro, Alvarado, Decoto, Centreville, Sunol and Livermore, as well as from many non-members in and around Niles.

The principal fruits handled by the association consist of apricots, peaches and French prunes, and small quantities of silver prunes, plums and pears. GEO. H. HUDSON.

### OUR PORTUGUESE FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

EDITOR PRESS: In compliance with your request I will gladly give you a short statement of the condition, objects and standing of the fraternal societies of this township composed principally of our Portuguese Americans. Although since the organization of this county in 1853, many of our Portuguese citizens have been associated with such orders as the I. O. O. F. and A. O. U. W., but not until August 12, 1886, did they have societies working in the Portuguese language. On the date last above named the undersigned organized "Concelho Amor da Patria No. 5" of the "União Portuguesa do Estado de California," generally known as the U. P. E. C., a fraternal society organized under the laws of this State in San Leandro, Cal., August 1, 1880 with thirty members. The objects of this society are mutual protection to its members and their families. It issues a certificate of \$1400

which, at the death of a member is paid to his beneficiaries; if, however, the member survives his wife, at the time of her death he receives \$400, on account of his certificate. Since the organization of the above branch, No. 5, the growth, not only of



said branch but of the entire society has been very rapid. The membership of less than 400, distributed among five lodges in 1888 has increased to upwards of 2600 in 1898 distributed among thirty-three lodges in different parts of the State. The lodges now in existence in this township are: Concelho Amor da Patria No. 5 at Centreville, with 216 members; Concelho Amor do Proximo No. 10 at Mission San Jose with 82 members and Concelho A Fonte No. 16 at Alvarado with 50 members. The cost of insurance is very moderate, being regulated according to the death rate. The U. P. E. C. has paid death benefits since organization of over \$150,000.

In 1889 a fraternal society came into existence in this township at Mission San Jose called "Irmandade do Divino Espirito Santo." It is not as its name suggests, a religious society, but originated with the celebration of the feast of the Pentecost or Whit Sunday, hence its religious name. Its aims are for the mutual protection of its members and their families. Unlike the U. P. E. C. it does not offer a stipulated sum of insurance, but at the death of a member his beneficiaries receive the sum of \$1 from each member in the entire society. Likewise if a member be married and survives his wife, he receives fifty cents from each member at her death. The I. D. E. S. is in a flourishing condition, having ramifications in several parts of this State and a membership of about eight hundred. The councils in this township are: Mission San Jose No. 1, with 152 members; Vasco da Gama No. 2 at Alvarado, with 64 members and Flor da Irmandade No. 4 at Newark with 50 members. These two societies comprise a membership of 614 members in this township.

JOHN G. MATROS JR.



### CANDIDATE FOR COUNTY ASSESSOR.

SIX years ago Henry P. Dalton was unknown in public life. Now his name is a household word in Alameda County, and he is recognized from Oregon to Mexico as a potential factor in the making of the political history of California. Six years is a brief apprenticeship for a public career, but Mr. Dalton, and in this his career is unique, apparently entered the arena of politics armed at all points, and became at once a potent force therein. An analysis of his character demonstrates why his official record is one of uniform success.

Mr. Dalton's most prominent characteristics are persistency, combativeness and a truly democratic inability to recognize the verity of an assumption that greater wealth implies greater goodness. He judges men as God made them, not as fortuitous circumstances cause them to appear to be. To this democratic trend of thought, it is possible that much of his initial popularity with the mass of the people was due.

Born in Tuolumne county in 1860, Mr. Dalton's infancy, boyhood and manhood have been passed in Alameda county, where he was reared and educated in the public schools of Oakland. After his graduation therefrom he entered upon what was at that time apparently to be his life work, in the establishment of his father and brother, manufacturers of machinery and agricultural implements under the firm name of "Henry Dalton & Sons Company," an industry which was then, and is now, one of the most important in the county.

For over a score of years Mr. Dalton has resided in the first ward of Oakland, wherein are situated the yards and shops of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. With the common impulse of securing homes as near as possible to the place of their daily toil, the mechanics, operatives and laborers of the railroad company located in the first ward, and, politically, that district became a "pocket borough" of that corporation, to the manifest injury of the people and the municipality. It was because of this condition which was then obtained in his district that Mr. Dalton entered into public life.

In 1892, the Southern Pacific corporation having declared itself in favor of the election of one of its political creatures to the Oakland city council from the first ward, Henry P. Dalton announced himself as a candidate for that position upon an independent, anti-railroad platform. This he was forced to do, though a stalwart Republican in principal, because the political machinery of the city was then owned and controlled by the railway corporation. His election by the people of his district, as its representative citizen, after one of the hardest political battles ever fought in Oakland, was the hardest blow that had, up to that time, been stricken at the bonds of corporation supremacy in Oakland or Alameda county.

It was while he was a member of Oakland's city council that the notable inequality of assessments levied in this county attracted his attention, and he resolved to do that which to him might be possible to bring about a change.

To remedy the then evils of the assessor's office there was but one method sure of success. That was to himself be-

come the county assessor. The obstacles to the attainment of this position were apparently insurmountable, and would have appalled and disheartened a less persistent or courageous man than Mr. Dalton.

The corporations and their allies, the large holders of land then controlled the nominating machinery of both of the great political parties, and they made it a *sine qua none* of the granting of an assessorial nomination that the nominee should barter his honor and his pledges to the people in return for the possibilities of the place. This thing Henry P. Dalton would not do. Yet, in order to carry out the reforms that he meditated, it was necessary that he should become the assessor of Alameda county. To this resolution he came after his initial experience as a member of Oakland's city council in session as a board of equalization.

From that time until he was triumphantly elected over the corporation endorsed candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties, he labored with the same persistency of purpose and the same energy that he manifested when a lad in the saving of the life of his playmate, Louis Anderson. Realizing the impossibility of securing a nomination from

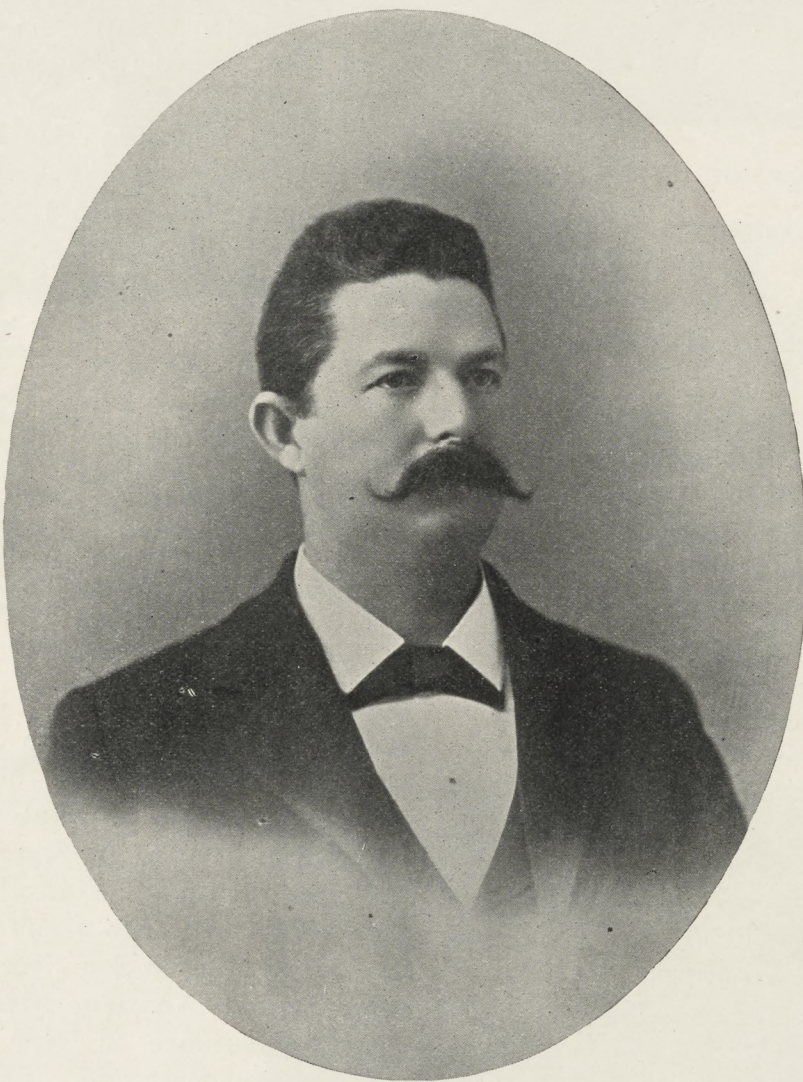
any party Mr. Dalton entered the field of county politics as an independent candidate, though of his republicanism there was no question, and canvassed the county as it had never been canvassed.

As assessor of Alameda county since January 1, 1895, the career of Mr. Dalton is an open scroll.

He has annually assessed the valuations of the property of the Southern Pacific and the street railways, the telephone and telegraph corporations, and the holdings of the large land holders, upon the same basis that he has used in rating the value of the smallest farm or the humblest cottage—its value in the open market. The people have openly approved his course of action, though the county and State boards of equalization, deferring as of yore to corporation dictation, for two years reduced his assessments. Political death in this county having followed these reductions for those who, having participated in them, came afterward before the people for reelection, the assessments of

Mr. Dalton for this year, again an election year, upon the properties of the Southern Pacific and other corporations in this county, have in their most essential details received the support of a majority of the supervisors in their quality of a county board of equalization.

Thackery described an unpopular man as "an unclubable person," a man that no organization desired as a member. Mr. Dalton may not be styled one of that type, for he is a member of many social and secret societies, and is one of the most popular members enrolled in them. He is a member in Masonry of Live Oak Lodge, F. & A. M., No. 61; of Oakland Chapter No. 36; of Oakland Commandery No. 11, of Knights Templar; of Islam Temple Mystic Shrine, and of the Thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is also a member of Harbor Lodge, No. 253, I. O. O. F.; of Oakland Parlor, No. 50, N. S. G. W.; of Oakland Camp Woodmen of the World, and is the Supreme Treasurer of the Order of Modern Trojans. He also belongs to the Nile, Athenian and Reliance clubs of Oakland.

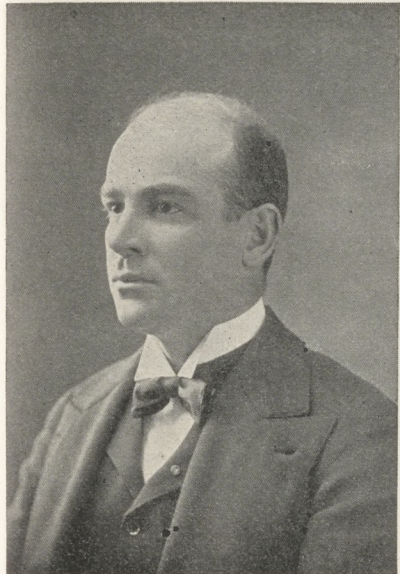


HENRY P. DALTON.



## FOR COUNTY CLERK.

COUNTY Clerk Jordan is one of the best known men in Alameda county. His affable manner and endeavor to please all who have business in the Clerks office, has made him a host of strong and true friends of all political parties. His administration has been one which any man might feel proud of, and has saved thousands of dollars



FRANK C. JORDAN.

to the tax payers, by the right kind of management. He has systematized the duties of the Clerk's office, so that a large amount of work can be attended to in a short space of time. He has always had in view the best interests of the tax payers, and as such has made yearly statements of the expenditure of public funds.

County Clerk Jordan is a candidate for re-election this year, and as such he asks the citizens of Alameda county to award him a second term. He will seek the Republican nomination, and

will make an honorable fight to secure the same.

It has been the rule of the Republican party to award a second term to an official who has done his full duty, and Frank C. Jordan certainly comes under this head. He is the best County Clerk that Alameda county ever had, and is deserving of re-nomination at the hands of the Republicans of Alameda county.

## FOR ASSEMBLYMAN.

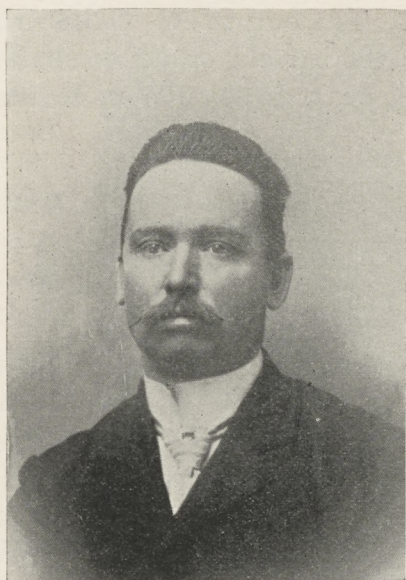
THE subject of this sketch is a native born, having first seen the light of day in Oakland thirty-eight years ago. At an early age he moved with his parents to the Livermore Valley, where he has resided ever since.

Upon arriving at the voting age he identified himself with the Republican party, and has been ever since an earnest worker. He has been elected a delegate to several County Conventions and has done earnest work in the interests of his friends. He now aspires to a political position, and announces himself a candidate for Assemblyman from the forty-sixth district.

He is a good speaker, a well educated young man, and one who will do his district honor if they see fit to tender him the nomination.

The young men of his district as well as the old war horses will rally round his standard, and their efforts will prove successful in getting "Bill" McDonald the nomination.

Of the early pioneers who arrived in Washington township in 1849, only two are now living within the township boundaries. Mr. J. M. Hawley and Mr. Perry Morrison are the gentlemen referred to. The former now resides with his wife and daughter at their home in Alvarado, while the latter passes his time between his home at Niles and his ranch over at the sea coast. Both are hardy old fellows, and are at all times willing to talk over the incidents of early days.



WILLIAM McDONALD.

## FOR SENATOR.

EDWARD K. TAYLOR, candidate for the Senatorial nomination in this district, is now thirty-eight years of age, and has resided in Alameda county since 1862. He is a son of Bishop William Taylor, the California pioneer, and of old American stock; his ancestors, paternal and maternal, having settled in Virginia long before the Revolution.

His early education was obtained in the public schools and High school of Alameda and Heald's Business College. After a four years' course he graduated from the University of the Pacific, and subsequently completed a post graduate course and obtained his Masters Degree.

He has always been a hard worker, physically and mentally, and during five summers worked in the harvest field heading and threshing, earning his way and incidentally acquiring a strong physical constitution and also that wholesome respect for the strong right arm of labor which has often impelled him to champion the cause of the working man.

After graduation at college he worked for two years farming and contracting in Fresno county; then entered the Law College of the State University, from which he graduated with the degree of LL. B.

In 1885, upon examination, he was admitted to practice by the Supreme Court, and after a second trip through the eastern states and Europe, entered upon the successful practice of his profession.

Mr. Taylor has neglected no opportunity to acquire that information which is gained by travel, and has passed every degree of longitude, and from the fortieth parallels south to the seventy-first north latitude, has attended eight international fairs, and visited nearly all of the states and every part of California.

At school and college he earned high standing in all of his studies, never failed to pass an examination, and continues to be a student not only of books but of men and measures.

At college he took active interest in debating societies, regularly representing his class as debater or orator at public contests, and at both universities from which he graduated was selected as one of the commencement speakers.

Politically the candidate has long been an ardent Republican and fond of political fight. At the age of eighteen he commenced working at the polls and delivering Republican speeches, and has participated in every subsequent campaign on behalf of the party.

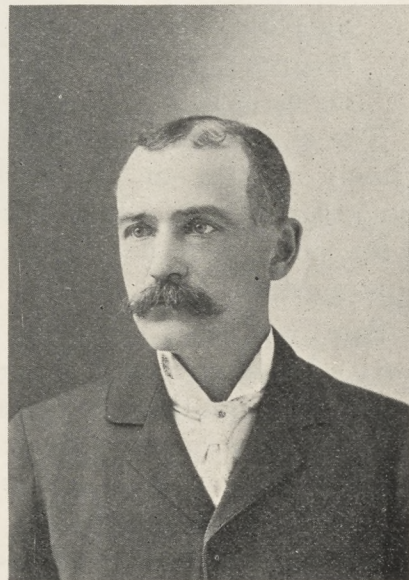
This, however, is the first time he has solicited office from his party, for in the municipal politics of Alameda, party lines have not been drawn.

The only office which he has held is that of city attorney of Alameda, to which he has been four times appointed and twice elected.

In 1892 Mr. Taylor was selected as one of the Executive Committee of the Republican State Committee and is now First Vice Chairman of that body.

He is a forcible and earnest speaker, keen in debate and skilled in parliamentary rules, so if nominated and elected should prove a credit to his district.

His name on the Republican ticket would mean a great many Democratic votes.



EDWARD K. TAYLOR.



### OUR SALT INDUSTRY.

PROBABLY no substance can be more utilized than chloride of sodium - common salt. To know the need of this article is to be without it. Thousands there are that use it, but how many are acquainted with its composition, its chemical purities and impurities. Its power as an appetizer, a tonic, a medicine and a curative. Externally, to man an irritant, to animals a solace.

The Pacific Ocean, although in easy distance with the Arctic regions of everlasting snow and ice, is pronounced to be the saltiest body of sea water on the globe.

San Francisco Bay is a marvel of currents. Although freshets from the Sacramento and other large rivers crowd their way through the Golden Gate, yet with the increasing tide, the waters of the Bay sparkle with phosphorescent brilliancy.

The principle constituents of sea water are:

Chloride of Sodium  
Carbonite of Soda  
Chloride of Calcium  
Sulphite of Soda  
Magnesia Sulphate  
Oxide of Iron.

The climate of Alameda Co. is justly adapted to the solar manufacture of salt, which is in fact the only true mode of getting the pure article.

San Francisco Bay from a point off Redwood City, to Mowry's Landing Slough, is a series of shell banks. The channels through these banks are very deep and as a consequence the tides run very swift. The principle channel runs along the Western shore, and it is through this channel flows the incoming tides which offset the fresh water during the rainy season. Sea water as taken from the Bay in early Spring is impure.

In June the tides are very high, always following the moon. The saline strength of the Bay water at this season of the year averages 6 to 10 salometer. These are the tides that salt makers utilize to fill their reservoirs. These reservoirs are large tracts of dyke enclosed marsh lands, made tight by a shoal stratum of "hard pan" or greasy clay. From these reservoirs the sea water is moved by wind power into smaller or crystalizing ponds. It will be noticed that at 20° salometer, myriads of animal cula appear in the water. These little animals, they cannot be called fish, live until the water reaches crystalization, they then turning to a bright pinkish color, disappear. While salt is forming in the vats, an occasional water beetle may be seen paddling in and out amongst the salt crystals, illustrating to us one of the most remarkable instances of animal life. This beetle with the use of its two paddles, can without any seeming difficulty, remain below the surface of the brine an indefinite period of time, the brine at the same time being scalding hot.

Salt water at 40° salometer commences to deposit its lime, or gypsum. This is a very good substitute for gravel, as it never melts when exposed to the rain, and it also acts as a valuable fertilizer. It is at this stage of the water that a potato will float, the family test for determining the strength

of brine, which is a very dangerous one at times, as salt is dissoluable in brine at 95° salometer. The point of crystalization is 106°. Salt commences to form at this point, and magnesia is easily agitated, and unless closely watched causes the brine in the vats to turn a milky whiteness. If the manipulation of the brine thus far has been properly managed, the salt will, from the first, form in clear crystals, and continue to do so until of sufficient thickness, when it is gathered preparatory to removal to sheds or bins. Oxide of iron is insoluable, and unless expelled from the brines causes the salt at the latter stage to turn to a reddish color. After the salt has been removed from the vats, the drainings or bittum remaining, if allowed to evaporate leaves a deposit of crystalized bromides. Salt forms in cubes, while bromines form in crystals, not unlike saltpeter, which if dipped into fresh water sparkle clear and transparent, but no flavor of salt is there. This bromide taken internally acts as a laxative, alarming farmers who carelessly feed their stock salt residue.

Salt is manufactured from sea water in five counties in California. Of these five, Alameda county leads in quantity and quality. As early as 1853 salt was gathered along the eastern shore of San Francisco bay.

Prior to 1864 there was very little demand for salt on the Pacific coast, as all salted fish and meats were brought from the north Atlantic sea-ports via Cape Horn. Instead of importing salted fish and meats, California now exports them. The Newfoundland salt cod have been replaced by Alaskan cod-fish packed in California salt, and all of the salmon caught along the north Pacific coast are cured by California salt. With the exception of English salt, no other is used for packing purposes.

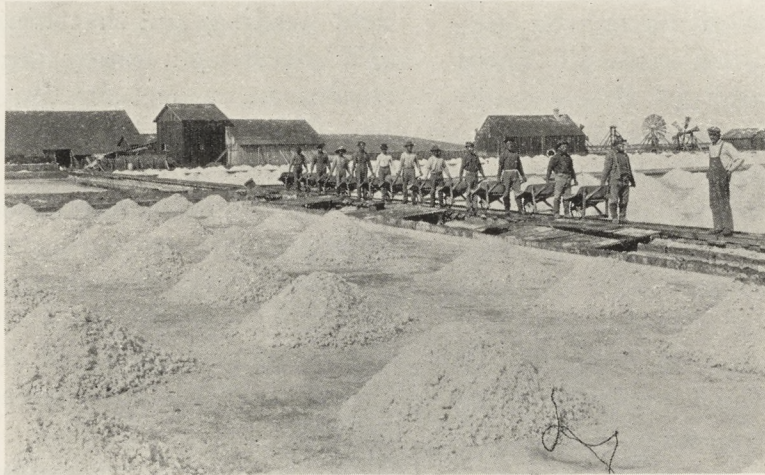
California Crystal Salt now supplies all of the Pacific States, Siberia, Japan, Honolulu, and part of Central America. The output of California salt has increased from 214,286 barrels, or 30,000 short tons in 1883, to 430,121 barrels, or 60,217 short tons in 1896.

C. A. PLUMMER.

### COUNTY FUNDS STOLEN.

IN the year 1854 one of the greatest robberies ever perpetrated in Washington township happened. The safe containing the county funds at Alvarado was robbed of about twelve thousand dollars. County Judge Crane who happened to be in San Francisco was appraised of the fact and immediately crossed the bay and took the stage for Alvarado. On arrival he proceeded to make a most

careful examination. The rear of the building in which the safe was kept projected over the shelving bank of Alameda creek, affording standing room beneath. The Judge in poking around in the sand with his cane, discovered under the part of the building on the bank, an old boot which he hooked on to, drew it out, and much to his amazement dumped upon the ground no less than four thousand dollars in gold. Long poles were procured with hooks attached and in this manner one thousand dollars more was recovered. No clue was ever found as to who was the thief.



PLUMMER'S CALIFORNIA SALT WORKS.



RESIDENCE - G. E. CHITTENDEN - NILES.



**J. CAL EWING.**

**H**ERE is an extraordinary bright young man—a thorough and practical business man—every inch of him. He was born in October, 1866, at Suisun, Solana county, and moved to Alameda county in 1871, where he has since



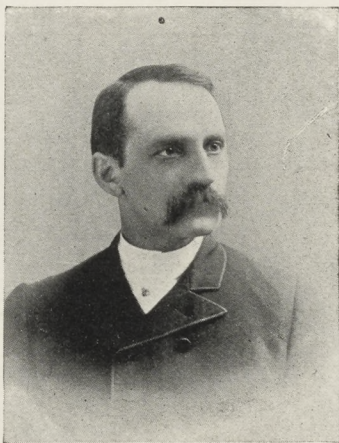
J. CAL EWING.

resided. He belongs to many fraternal organizations, and his genial manner and unblemished record have made him popular as a citizen and formidable as a candidate for office. He has great breadth of business capacity, founded on a splendid business education which eminently fits him for a position of trust. His friends are running him for County Auditor on the Republican ticket, and it is safe to say that he will win out. Mr. Ewing is at present the efficient Chief Deputy in the County Clerk's office, and by his affable manner has won

the good will of all who have to transact business with that office. He is thoroughly a Republican, through and through, and if past good work in the party has anything to do with it, Cal Ewing will be the next County Auditor, as his services are certainly deserving of some recognition.

**P. M. FISHER.**

**A**CCOMPANYING this article is a cut which will be readily recognized by many citizens of Washington Township. Twenty-one years ago P. M. Fisher, just from college, began his acquaintance here as teacher of the Sunol, now Sheridan, School District. Success followed close attention to his work, and two and a half years later he was elected principal of the Washington Township school at Irvington. After two and a half years he was nominated and elected County Superintendent of Schools. He was renominated by acclamation and elected by the largest majority given any County Superintendent of Schools in the political history of the County. Defeated in the convention at a time when friends of other candidates had succeeded in more than doubling the salary of the office, Mr. Fisher secured and held for five years the influential position of editor of the Pacific Educational Journal, and served two terms as secretary of the Committee of Education of the California State Senate. At present he is principal of the popular Central School, Oakland, with a corps of eighteen assistant teachers. He is equally at home in the schools of the country and city. He has always held Washington Township in fond remembrance as the scene of his early success, and he has many warm friends here. Mr. Fisher is enthusiastic and outspoken in any cause he advocates. He is an ardent Republican but his administration as Superintendent was so fair as to be commended by men of all parties. The many new school buildings in this section of the county; the flag staffs and fluttering flags; the names of the districts placed on the school buildings, are visible monuments of his Superintendency. The grateful memories in the hearts of the teachers whom he encouraged are invisible but powerful tokens of his influence. Such a man may

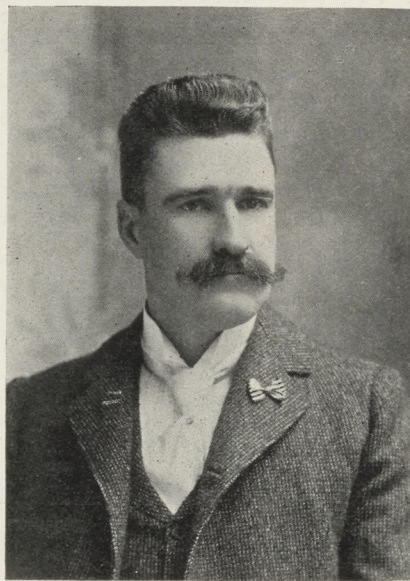


P. M. FISHER.

sometimes give offense in doing what he deems his duty, but he is sure to have devoted friends. It is fitting that his picture and this notice should appear in this exhibit of Washington Township's history and resources.

**CHARLES SPEAR.**

**F**OREMOST among the popular young men of this county who are occupying official positions is County Recorder Charles Spear, an excellent likeness of whom is presented with this sketch. Mr. Spear's home is in Berkeley. Four years ago he was nominated on the Republican ticket for the office he now holds and was elected by as hand-



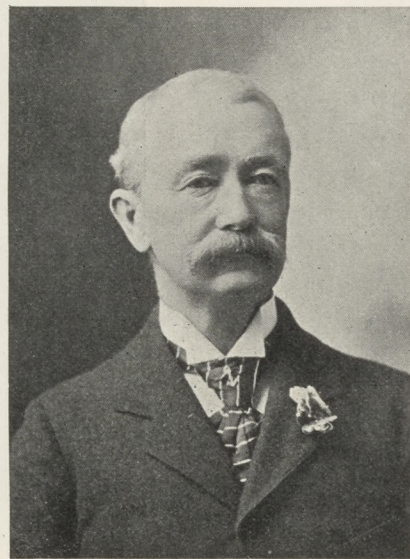
CHARLES SPEAR.

some a majority as the county has ever given a candidate for the Recordship. Being a man of thorough business training, he inaugurated a system in the office that greatly facilitated the handling of the immense volume of business which is constantly passing through that department. His administration of the office has been satisfactory to the entire county. All who have had transactions with the Recorder will testify that every courtesy has been shown

them. While Mr. Spear has many friends throughout the county, his staunchest supporters are those who know him best. He has been a life-long and ardent Republican and has taken a prominent part in the councils of that party. He is a candidate for renomination, and if past record and party services count for anything, the prize will be his beyond any question.

**R. H. MAGILL.**

**R.** H. MAGILL, the subject of this article, is one of the oldest fire underwriters on the Pacific Coast. He came here in the early sixties as the representative of the Phoenix. Later he identified himself with the Home Mutual Insurance Company, managing that institution with great success for nearly nineteen years, retiring at the time the company was sold out. Mr. Magill then accepted the special agency of the Western and British America Assurance Companies of Toronto. His special field has been Alameda and Contra Costa counties, where his companies do a business exceeding that of any competitor. His office is at 1010 Broadway, Oakland, and his residence is in Alameda. A feature of Mr. Magill's business and one that has made his office so popular with the insuring public is the fact that all losses occurring under his policies are adjusted and paid by him in person. Following is a list of his local representatives in Washington Township: F. B. Granger, Jr, Alvarado; S. Sandholdt, Centreville; Miss Lillie Hirsh, Irvington, and Joseph Sunderer, Mission San Jose. They all do an extensive business for this popular agency.



R. H. MAGILL.



## ARDENWOOD.

MIDWAY between Centreville and Newark is Ardenwood, the home of Mrs. George W. Patterson, widow of the late George W. Patterson. There is not a more handsome or attractive structure in the township than the residence which graces Ardenwood. Its broad verandas, massive architecture and general air of grandeur at once gives the impression that it is the abiding place of culture and refinement. The Patterson ranch on which the homestead is located consists of 4155 acres, comprising some of the richest bottom lands in the State. It was appraised at \$529,563.50. Considerable of it is sublet, but many of the broad acres are under the absolute control of the mistress of Ardenwood. They have never failed to yield large and profitable crops. The narrow gauge branch of the Southern Pacific Company runs for miles through the Patterson ranch. The company will shortly establish a station near Mrs. Patterson's home. It will be named Ardenwood. One of the prettiest and most interesting features surrounding this elegant country home is a deer park of more than twenty acres in extent. Its dense undergrowth and generally wild appearance make it an ideal home for the handsome animals. They are captives with none of the elements of captivity. They have extensive territory over which to roam and their surroundings are practically the same as when they dwelt on their native heath. The picture shown on this page is reproduced from a photograph of one of the herd of sixteen deer that inhabit the Ardenwood deer park. The fine big buck was just emerging from the underbrush when our artist "snapped" him. The picture gives a fine idea of the scenery in and about the deer park as well as the fine class of animals that are kept there. They are Mrs. Patterson's special pets, and she passes many pleasant hours watching them. They are perfectly tame and show as much affection for their mistress as she does fondness for them. Mrs. Patterson is a lady whose good qualities are legion, and whose kindly deeds have endeared her to all who have the pleasure of her acquaintance. She is extremely charitable and apparently never so happy and satisfied as when placed in a position to relieve the suffering of some unfortunate or supply the wants of the needy. Many poor families have received of her bounty. She deservedly has the respect and good will of every citizen of Washington Township.



DEER PARK - ARDENWOOD.



ARDENWOOD - MRS. G. W. PATTERSON - NEAR CENTREVILLE.

## CENTERVILLE RED CROSS SOCIETY.

RED Cross work was commenced in Washington Township at Centerville shortly after the breaking out of the war. Viewing with commendable patriotism the needs of the soldier boys, and anxious to assist in the great work of surrounding them with as many comforts as circumstances would permit, a few ladies of Centerville issued a call for a meeting to organize a branch of the State Red Cross Society. The attendance at the meeting and the great interest manifested far exceeded the fondest hopes of the most enthusiastic advocates of the noble undertaking. A permanent organization was effected by the election of Mrs. Mary Allen, President; Mrs. F. O. Bunting, Secretary; Mrs. T. C. Huxley, Treasurer. The ladies entered upon their work with great earnestness and determination and have accomplished wonders. The Society has held weekly meetings in the Centerville town hall, the use of which was kindly donated by the hall association. The meetings have been well attended, and the interest displayed at the start has been manifested throughout the society's existence. The membership now exceeds ninety.

Every one has engaged in the work with a will, and the result of their labors has been a store of good things for the Boys in Blue. The society has made liberal donations of clothing, food and money.

## STOVE FOUNDRIES.

STOVE making has developed into a local industry of considerable importance and prominence. The first foundry was started at Newark by the Graham Company. An extensive plant was put in, and a class of stoves was turned out that at once demanded attention and created a big market for themselves. Following the establishment of the Graham works at Newark, George H. T. Tay & Co. of San Francisco started a foundry at Alvarado. A fine business has been built up giving steady employment to about twenty men. A great many of the stoves made here are sent out of the country. A brief time ago the local

foundries commenced making a stove particularly adapted to the needs of the Klondike country.

The total number of acres sown last year in this township to wheat, barley, corn, hay, potatoes, sugar beets, vegetables and oats was 23,456.



### THE CALIFORNIA NURSERY.

**A**MONG the most notable institutions in the Golden State is the California Nursery, located at Niles, about twenty-seven and one-half miles from San Francisco. The tract under cultivation comprises about 500 acres, nearly one square mile in area, the northerly boundary extending parallel with, and touching the line of the railway, for a distance of one mile. The company that owns and manages the nursery was incorporated in 1884, for the



ENTRANCE - CALIFORNIA NURSERY - NILES.

purpose of growing trees, plants, etc., best adapted for cultivation in the climate of California. Ten acres of land are devoted to the experimental purposes and the rearing of new varieties of fruits. There are eighteen acres planted with roses, comprising over four hundred varieties, and new species are added as fast as developed. All northern deciduous fruits are cultivated, as well as those grown in semi-tropical climates. These latter include oranges, lemons, limes, figs, etc., and over fifty varieties of olives, imported at a great expense from France, Spain and Italy. Ornamental



RESIDENCE - MRS. H. B. ELLSWORTH - NILES.

and decorative plants, such as are usually grown only in conservatories or hot-houses East, are here cultivated in the open air.

Ten acres of territory are devoted to the culture of this class, the leading varieties of which are Magnolia and Palm trees, specimens of which can be furnished from one to ten feet in height. The company's office is about one-half mile west of the railroad station and can easily be reached by foot or by conveyance. The Corporation employs from 100 to 220 hands, during the busy season, and also finds use for about thirty-two horses. Some twelve families reside on the premises, and the larger portion of the employes make their homes in Niles, Decoto and Centreville. A visit to this magnificent Nursery will afford convincing evidence of the immense variety of trees, plants, shrubs, flowers, etc., that can be grown in the climate of California. There is a greater variety of these under cultivation at the Nursery than at

any other in the United States, and it is doubtful if Europe itself affords many superior institutions of the kind. Ample provision is made for irrigating the land when necessary, and apparently nothing is wanting in the way of a complete equipment for the production of any plant that can be grown in this State.

The temperature of the atmosphere at Niles is very nearly uniform all the year around, and a marked characteristic of the climate is, that almost all plants grown in the temperate zone can be successfully cultivated there. It certainly is a strange sight and well calculated to fill visitors from abroad with wonder and curiosity to observe plants and trees indigenous to northern climes growing side by side with products of tropical countries. This of itself testifies to the wonderful fertility of the soil and the peculiar and unparalleled character of the climatic influences in the Golden State. It would be hard to indicate another section of the globe where the same conditions exist.



RESIDENCE - L. E. OSGOOD - IRVINGTON.

Mr. John Rock, the President and Manager of the company, has been engaged in the nursery business since 1864, and for years managed an extensive plant of his own at San Jose, Cal., before the assumption of his present position. The California Nursery Company took the first prize at the World's Fair Columbian Exposition, for its exhibit of roses. To those whom interest or curiosity prompts to visit the Nursery, we may say that they will meet with most polite and courteous treatment, and every facility will be offered them in the way of direction and explanation that the most exacting individual could demand. Catalogues of ornamental trees, small fruits, etc. etc., may be obtained at the Nursery, with a list of prices and other necessary information. These may also be obtained by writing to the management and re-



RESIDENCE - E. ELLSWORTH - NILES.

questing same to be forwarded to any address. In conclusion, it only remains to be said, that the California Nursery is a credit to the State of California and to the projectors of the enterprise.



### OUR WINE INDUSTRY.

**W**INE-MAKING and grape culture take rank among the most important of Washington Township's industries. The soil and climate are particularly well adapted for vine growing; in fact, the conditions are so extremely favorable that the wine output of the township has gained a world-wide reputation for its excellent quality. The wine belt is in the south-eastern section of the township, along the rolling foothills, where the vines are reasonably protected from frosts and where the warm rays of the sun kisses them to health and hardiness. There is nearly 3000



SALAZAR WINE CELLAR - MISSION SAN JOSE.

acres in vines, or, to be more exact, 2299. Of this extensive territory 2105 acres are in bearing vines. The annual output is over a million and a half gallons, not including much that is made for private consumption. Our wines have become so popular and far-famed that the greater portion is shipped to foreign markets. The cooperage of the various wineries gives an idea of the extensiveness of the industry in this township: Palmdale, 1,200,000; Stanford, 300,000; Grau & Werner, 200,000; C. C. McIver, 125,000; Rehr, 75,000; Salazar, 75,000; Putnam, 75,000; Devaux, 50,000; Weller, 40,000; St. Dominican, 20,000; Bond, 25,000; Grand total, 2,185,000.

### HUNG AT ALVARADO

**D**URING the year 1863, bands of Mexican desperadoes roamed the hills adjacent to Washington township, and at times came down onto the plateau and committed various kinds of crime. On November 23d of that year, several parties in Alvarado were fired upon by members of the gang who immediately took to flight to their hiding places in the hills. The citizens had stood enough



RESIDENCE - DR. C. A. HAUBER - ALVARADO.

at the hands of the roving cutthroats, and made up their minds to teach the lawless class a lesson. A party was formed, a vigorous pursuit inaugurated, and one of the gang captured. He was taken back to town, and as a warning to others of his ilk, was hanged from a cross-beam of the bridge spanning Alameda creek.

### HAWES & DUSTERBERRY.

**I**N the year 1889 F. T. Hawes established a general merchandise business at Centreville, in the Hansen block.

From a small and unpretentious store the business grew, and one year later Mr. F. T. Dusterberry bought into the concern. With the increased capital of the new partner the establishment began to grow, and a successful business was thenceforth carried on. But few country towns can boast of having such a thorough business firm in their midst, and from one end of the township to the other the name is known.

The Wells-Fargo Express Company established an office in Centreville with Mr. Dusterberry as their local agent, and for several years he had charge of the express business. On January 15, 1894, Mr. F. T. Dusterberry was

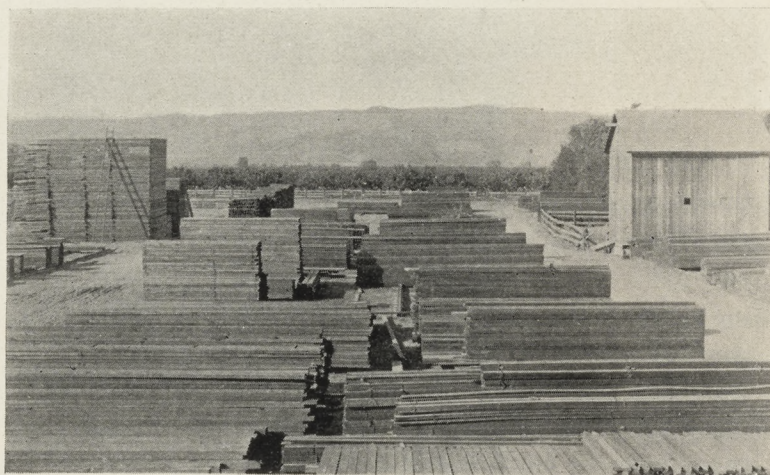


HAWES & DUSTERBERRY - CENTREVILLE.

appointed postmaster of the town, under the Cleveland administration, and it was not until lately that the office passed from his hands. Mr. Dusterberry has been an efficient and conscientious postmaster and his many friends are loth to see the office pass out of his hands.

### CENTREVILLE LUMBER COMPANY.

**U**P to a few years since Washington township could boast of only one lumber yard. The S. H. Chase Lumber Co., of San Jose, had this territory called to their attention, and after a careful survey of the business prospects in their line of trade, decided to open up a branch. Thus came in existence the Centreville Lumber Yard, of which Mr. E. S. Chase is the local manager. The business has grown from the very start, and has been a great accommodation to the residents of the towns in the eastern portion of



CENTREVILLE LUMBER YARD - CENTREVILLE.

the township. In the yard can be found a large and varied stock of redwood and pine lumber, doors, sash, mouldings, fruit boxes and in fact anything you may need in the building line. Large invoices of lumber are being received weekly, and the intention of the Chase Lumber Company to run a first-class yard is being carried out. When in need of anything in the line of lumber be sure and call at the Centreville Lumber Yard.



### MASONIC WIDOWS AND ORPHANS HOME.

○CTOBER 14, 1896, was a memorable one in the history of Decoto. Fully 10,000 Masons met there that day to go through the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of the Masonic Widows and Orphans Home. The building, which is now nearing completion, is on the Baily tract, about half a mile east of Decoto. The structure is three stories in height with a rough attic and a finished basement. The basement story will be of Niles stone, and



RESIDENCE - J. MOWRY - MOWRY'S LANDING.

the three stories above it will be of red brick with sand stone and terra cotta trimmings. The building is an attractive one, of the Queen Anne style. The pitched slate roof and the neat tower rising in the center of the building makes the home an attractive object for miles around. In the center of the main facade is a quintuple arched portico of considerable depth, where the inmates may sit and enjoy the warm sunshine and the balmy air. Over the portico, too, is another roomy place for those who wish to enjoy a quiet hour. In the center of the building the tower rises to a height of 140

feet, and terminates in a pyramidal spire. Beneath the spire is a loggia open on all sides, and on the four sides of the tower are turrets. The building is 160 feet in length, and its extreme width 76 feet, the body of the building being 56 feet in width. The rib of the roof is 64 feet from the ground. Immediately within the entrance is a wide hall,



RESIDENCE - MRS. D. MOWRY - MOWRY'S LANDING.

heating apparatus and other conveniences. The architect is William H. Lillie. His plans were accepted after a competitive contest. The trustees of the institution at the time the corner stone was laid were, Gustavus L. Spear, Rev. Jacob Voor-sanger, Albert Hanson, Edward Coleman, W. F. Perry, George Harris and E. M. Preston. The large acreage around the building will be turned to good account, and is expected to furnish a great portion of the fruit and vegetables that will be consumed at the home.



MASONIC WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' HOME - DECOTO.

feet, and terminates in a pyramidal spire. Beneath the spire is a loggia open on all sides, and on the four sides of the tower are turrets. The building is 160 feet in length, and its extreme width 76 feet, the body of the building being 56 feet in width. The rib of the roof is 64 feet from the ground. Immediately within the entrance is a wide hall,

The Masonic festival held in San Francisco for the benefit of the home netted \$36,000. In addition to the building shown in the accompanying cut there will be a memorial hall to cost \$3000. It will be finished in marble. It is calculated that the main building will cost in the neighborhood of \$70,000.



### NUTWOOD STOCK FARM.

**N**UTWOOD Stock Farm, the home of Martin Carter, of the Newark Car Shops, is one of the finest country homes in this section. The residence is a handsome, massive affair, elegantly furnished, lighted with gas and supplied with all modern conveniences and improvements. Here Mr. Carter has surrounded himself with all the comforts and luxuries that capital can secure, or refinement and education demand. Mr. Carter is a breeder of some of the



RESIDENCE — MARTIN CARTER — IRVINGTON.

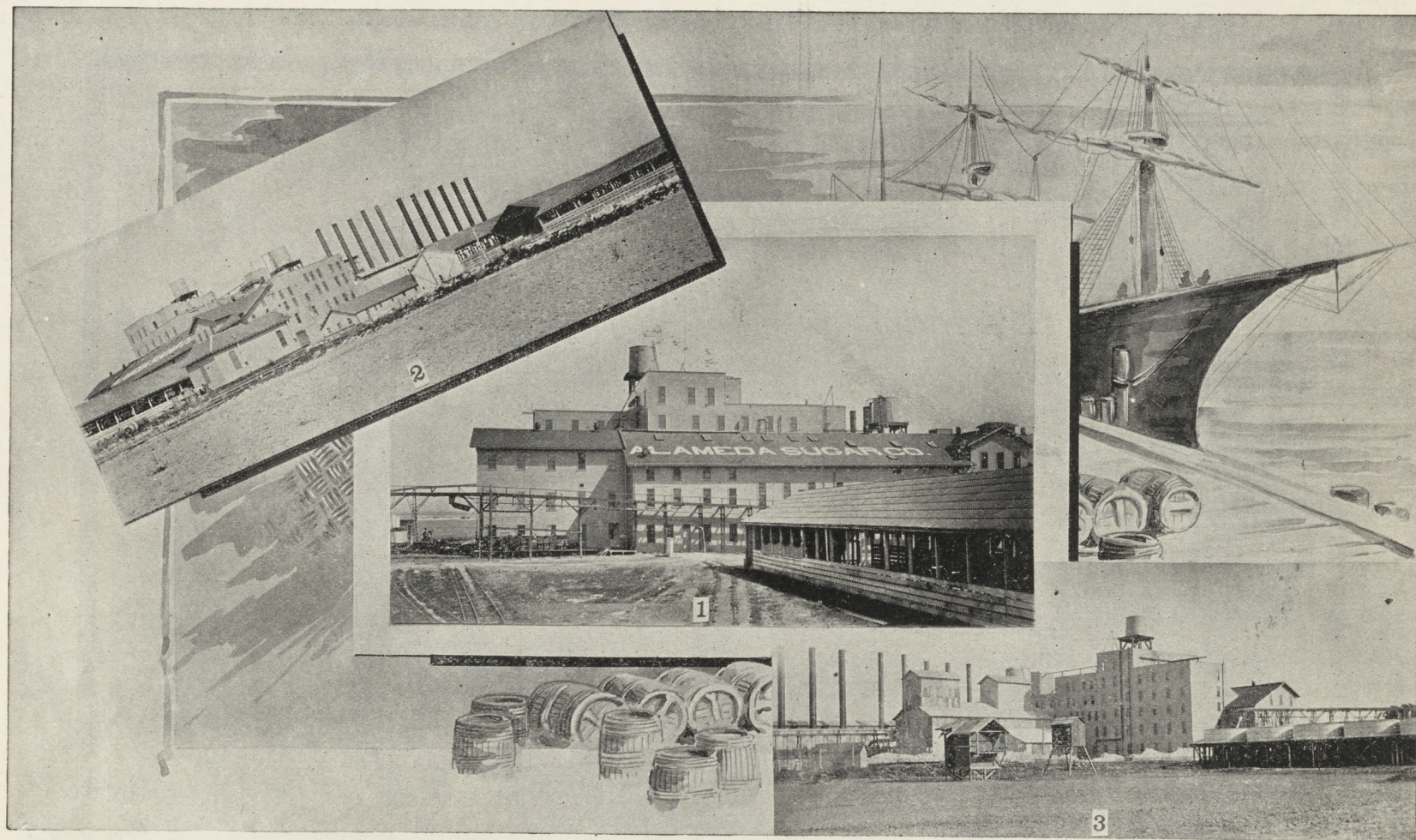
finest stock on the California turf. He was owner of the celebrated stallion, California Nutwood, sire of Maud C, 2:19; Annie C, 2:25; Albert H, 2:27½; Belle Porter, 2:30 and Nutwood, 2:30. He is also owner of Nutwood Wilkes, by Guy Wilkes, who had a three-year-old record of 2:20½; Rapid Transit, by Director, 2:17 and Long Branch, by Antevolo, 2:19½. The specialty of the Nutwood Stock Farm has been trotting stock and the heaviest Norman horses.

sugar about one-tenth of that amount. During the beet season 180 hands are employed. E. W. Burr, assistant superintendent of the company, is in charge of the factory. The field superintendent is A. P. Bryden. The mill originally had a daily capacity of but 350 tons, but the industry grew to such an extent that the company found it necessary to increase their plant. Extensive improvements were made last year. New buildings were constructed and machinery added to bring the factory up to the present output.



RESIDENCE — E. WHIPPLE — DECOTO.

Last year was a dry one, and the crop consequently short, still the company distributed in cash about \$150,000. One hundred thousand dollars of this amount was paid to the beet producers; \$30,000 went for labor, and \$20,000 was paid out for other expenses. This year the factory is manufacturing into sugar the product of 4,000 acres of beets. The price paid is \$4.50 a ton, delivered at the mill. Next



ALAMEDA BEET SUGAR FACTORY — ALVARADO.

### SUGAR BEET INDUSTRY.

**S**UGAR beet culture is one of the important industries of the township. The establishment of the factory of the Alameda Sugar Company at Alvarado made it possible for this branch of agriculture to be carried on here, and, in fact, in all sections of the county adapted to beet growing, at a fine profit to the producer. The plant of the Alameda Company is as well equipped as any in the State. It has a capacity of 850 tons of beets daily, producing in

year the same price will prevail. The secret of successful beet growing is deep plowing. This is said to be the reason why the tonnage per acre at Pleasanton, where the soil is plowed to a depth of from 14 to 16 inches, is nearly double that of this township. The average tonnage per acre in 1896 was ten; in 1897, fourteen; and in 1898, seven.

The total number of fruit and nut trees in Washington Township is 240,198.



## RALPH &amp; HARVEY.

MERCHANDISING is carried on at Alvarado on a large scale by the well-known firm of Ralph & Harvey. By years of close attention to business they have built up a most satisfactory patronage. Always alert to please the public, and appreciating fully that the secret of success in merchandising is to enjoy the confidence and good will of the people, the firm has earned for itself an enviable name among the business houses of the township, and has become a household word in the homes of Alvarado and



MERCHANDISE STORE - RALPH &amp; HARVEY - ALVARADO.

neighboring towns. The business of the firm has increased and broadened from year to year, new lines have been handled, additional storeroom occupied, and new friends and patrons made. What does the firm handle? Well, "everything under the sun" is the only comprehensive term by which the variety of their stock can be described. Of course, aside from the quality and quantity of the goods, prices form one of the important features in successful merchandising. Ralph & Harvey challenge competitors to sell goods at a closer margin than they do. Large sales and small profits have been their watchword. They do not believe in letting goods remain on their shelves until the dust covers them and spiders weave their webs about them. Low prices keep the



DRUG STORE O. G. DAY, PROPR.	} ALVARADO {	FURNITURE STORE RALPH & HARVEY
stock moving and enables Ralph & Harvey to keep fresh goods on their shelves at all times.		

## ALVARADO DRUG STORE.

BUT one drug store flourishes in Alvarado, that conducted by Mr. O. G. Day. It is located in one of the Ralph & Harvey buildings, adjoining the furniture store of the latter firm. Mr. Day's establishment is fitted up in neat and attractive style. A full and complete line of drugs, chemicals and patent medicines is kept, as well as a complete stock of fine stationery. The prevailing prices are as low as the lowest, while the quality and variety of the goods is up to the high standard of first-class establishments. Mr. Day is a druggist of ability, having enjoyed over thirty years' experience in the business. He is an affable gentleman and has a wide circle of friends.

## CRUSADE LODGE.

ODD FELLOWSHIP got its first foothold in Alameda County at Alvarado. Crusade Lodge, No. 93, was instituted there November 26, 1859, with the following charter members: C. S. Eigenbrodt, P. G.; A. E. Crane, James Hawley, W. M. Liston, William Morrison, William Hayes, W. H. Hawthorne, George Simpson, N. B. Eldred. The first officers were: C. S. Eigenbrodt, N. G.; A. E. Crane, V. G.; James Hawley, Recording Secretary; William Hayes, Treasurer, and William M. Liston, Financial Secretary. The members of the young lodge put forth their best efforts to increase the membership and put it on a solid foundation. They succeeded so admirably that from the start the lodge was a success and its growth was rapid and substantial. At the present time the membership numbers seventy-five. The lodge owns a fine two-story building. The lodge room, banquet hall and library occupy the upper



ODD FELLOWS' HALL - ALVARADO.

story. The ground floor is used as a public hall. The lodge meets every Saturday evening. The weekly sessions are well attended, and the old-time interest that was manifested by the charter members holds good to this day.

## M. R. LYLE &amp; CO.

STRICTLY cash was the new order of things the first of the year at M. R. Lyle & Co's. general merchandise store at Alvarado. The public knows full well that houses doing a large credit business can not buy for spot cash, getting the discounts therefor and can not sell at as close prices as the houses where money alone does the talking. Lyle & Co. carry an extensive stock of groceries, provisions, crockery, glassware, clothing, boots and shoes. Their manner of doing business and the courteous way in



MERCHANDISE STORE - M. R. LYLE &amp; CO. - ALVARADO.

which they treat their customers, has won for them a large patronage, not only in Alvarado but in nearly all of the nearby towns. The needs of the public are of the first consideration with the firm. Goods of a superior quality are the only class handled, and while they are of the best procurable the prices are kept down to a low figure.



### IRVINGTON KENNELS.

**D**OGS of high degree are represented in the accompanying cut. It is a reproduction of a photograph of ten fine St. Bernard puppies, the same that created such a sensation at the Golden Jubilee Mining Fair in San Francisco several months ago. They are all of one litter and are certainly beauties. They are blue-blooded stock, as both sire and dam are blue ribbon winners. The sire is the celebrated stud dog, Roxie Savage Taylor, the property of Mr. Hubert White of Oakland. Roxie is the only champion St. Bernard dog in the State, and has captured the first prizes from Los Angeles to Sacramento, as the following will show:

First prize, San Francisco, 1897,  
First prize, San Jose, 1897,  
First prize, Stockton, 1897,  
First prize, Los Angeles, 1897,  
Special best, Los Angeles, 1897,  
First challenge, Oakland, 1897,  
First challenge, Sacramento, 1898,  
Special best, Sacramento, 1898,  
First challenge, San Jose, 1898,  
Special best, San Jose, 1898.

The dam is Doris, the property of Mrs. E. B. Thompson, proprietor of the Irvington Kennels. She has been entered in only one dog show, that held at San Jose, and was awarded the first prize—the blue ribbon. She is out of Beauty by Bernardo, a \$2400 dog. Parties desiring to purchase pure blooded St. Bernard puppies, can at all times find just what they want by addressing the Irvington Kennels, Irvington, Alameda County, California. It has been suggested that the picture of the puppies shown herewith might appropriately be called “a yard of puppies.” The photograph from which our half-tone was made has attracted wide attention. It is unquestionably as fine a picture of animal life as it is possible to take.



ST. BERNARD PUPPIES — IRVINGTON KENNELS.

### DUGAN'S HOTEL.

**E**VERYONE in Washington Township, and a great many people outside of it, know genial, good natured John Dugan, proprietor of Dugan's Hotel at Newark. For more than thirty years he has been the jolly host of the well-known hostelry. The resort became famous years ago as the headquarters of the sportsmen who passed their spare time hunting ducks on the marshes, or in watching the fleet-footed hounds chase the doomed hares over the levels. Mr. Dugan's special hobby was his hounds and it is stated that there is not a better judge of dog flesh in the State. The Dugan Hotel has been conducted as a first-class country resort. The management has been so successful that liberal patronage has been enjoyed.



DUGAN'S HOTEL — NEWARK.

### ONE THING WE NEED.

**O**NE thing that Washington Township lacks is a banking institution. The opportunity presented to capitalists—and there are many of them here—to organize and conduct such a business profitably is nowhere more promising than it is right here in this fertile and prosperous section of Alameda County. The great variety and abundance of our products, the importance and extent of our manufacturing industries and the greatness of our business interests demand that we should have some facilities for handling the money that is continually flowing in and out of the township. The farmer, the merchant and the manufacturer, appreciating the necessity for such an enterprise, would extend it hearty and liberal support. It has been a matter of much discussion that the moneyed men of this section have not inaugurated some such enterprise here long ago. There is hardly a field that offers such a safe investment and will yield such satisfactory returns to capital as this. The monied transactions of the township are now carried on through the banks of Oakland and San Francisco. There is no apparent reason why the business cannot be handled at home with greater convenience and satisfaction, and result in keeping in circulation here vast sums of money that now finds its way into the vaults of Oakland and San Francisco banks. The establishing of a bank here would, in a great measure, result in stimulating trade, building up new industries and broadening those now located here.

The business transacted here compares favorably with that of any other township in the county, yet we are the only one in which a bank or other financial institution has not been established long ago.

Here is an opportunity for our public-spirited men to come to the front and show what they are made of.

Nearly all of the photographs from which the half-tones for this issue were made were taken by H. E. Kelley, an employe of the PRESS office. No better evidence is wanted of the young man's ability in that line than the clearness of the pictures, fine perspective and general excellence.

When we talk of “winter weather” in this county, it is only talk—it can't be anything else. The truth of the matter is that we have no winter at all. December, January and February are “rainy months,” but what of that? We need all the rain we can get. We never get too much. Put all the rainy days together, year in and year out, and they would not average a full month; so it is not worth while calling it winter simply because it rains a little.



**MURPHY AND BRISCOE.**

**N**ONE can excel and few can equal the bed rock prices and top-notch goods that are to be had at the general merchandise store of Murphy & Briscoe, at Niles. The firm commenced business in 1892. They occupy a commodious, well stocked and perfectly arranged store in the



MERCHANDISE STORE - MURPHY &amp; BRISCOE - NILES.

center of town. Their aim has been to anticipate the wishes of their patrons, and by liberal dealings and courteous treatment with all who have had to do with them, have built up a business larger than that enjoyed by most stores of the township. During the Cleveland administration, John Briscoe, a member of the firm, was appointed postmaster of Niles, and held the office for a term of four years.

**HENRY CROSBY.**

**P**LUMBING and tinning, to be done satisfactorily and properly, must be done by a man who understands his business thoroughly. Henry Crosby, whose place of business is at Centreville, has a complete knowledge of the trade, and executes all contracts in such a workmanlike manner that he has built up an extensive line of patronage. In connection with his plumbing business he



SHOP - H. CROSBY, CENTREVILLE - DWELLING.

has engaged in well boring and has made a specialty of that line. He had the contract to bore the first well sunk at Alvarado for the Dingee Water Company. He finished the largest one of the group and bored the one from which the greatest volume of water flows. In his Centreville store he carries a complete stock of stoves, tinware and hardware. He is a young man who enjoys a wide circle of friends, and who is destined to make his mark in the world.

The lemon industry in Washington Township promises great results. The foothill lands are particularly well adapted for the purpose and no irrigation is necessary. Lemon land can be had for \$100 an acre. Land between the trees can be used for small fruit and vegetables, and from \$50 to \$100 an acre can be made in this way, until the trees begin to produce, which will be in the fourth year. Trees will produce about 60 lemons each the fourth year.

**O. N. HIRSCH & CO.**

**T**HIS well-known local firm enjoys the distinction of owning and conducting the largest general merchandise store in Washington Township and one of the most important establishments in the interior of Alameda County. It was organized February 1, 1897, and at once sprung into popular favor. The one object of the firm has been to please the public, and it has succeeded so admirably that its big store enjoys a most liberal and lucrative patronage. The stock is complete in every detail. There is kept at all times full lines of groceries, dry goods, notions, tin, glass and woodenware, boots and shoes. Appreciating that the



MERCHANDISE STORE - HIRSCH &amp; CO. - IRVINGTON.

purchasing public demands a high class of goods at a low schedule of prices, the firm has always aimed to handle the best in quality that the market affords and the selling figures have invariably been kept down to the lowest notch. Having won the confidence and esteem of the public by square business methods, the firm has greatly increased its number of friends by the courteous treatment accorded all who have had dealings with it. The special day sales have been made a feature of the business. The rare bargains that have been offered on these occasions have never failed to draw big crowds to Hirsch & Co's. popular establishment.

**CARTER'S CAR SHOPS.**

**C**AR building is carried on on an extensive scale at the car shops of Carter Bros., at Newark. The establishment is one of the largest on the coast. Most of the passenger coaches and nearly all of the freight cars of the South Pacific Coast Railroad were built by the firm. Big orders for the San Francisco cable and electric lines have



CAR SHOPS - CARTER BROS. - NEWARK.

also been filled. The firm enjoys a big trade in South America, and makes a specialty of building railroad rolling stock for shipment to that country. Cars for this trade are built complete and painted at the Newark shops, and taken entirely apart for shipment. So perfect is the workmanship that it is not necessary to even repaint or varnish them when they are put together at their destination.



### NILES.

BEING the point of junction of the San Jose and Coast county branch of the S. P. R. R. Company, with the Livermore, Stockton and Sacramento line of the same company, Niles is always a lively point. The town is only incidentally dependent upon its being the point of junction for its business, for it is surrounded by a rich country of



RESIDENCE - MRS. LORING PICKERING - NILES.

choice agricultural and fruit lands, dotted with orchards of all varieties of fruits and nuts. Niles had its existence long years before the building of the railroads. It is here that Vallejo built his flouring mill in 1853. It is not a populous town, but is in the center of a populous farming and fruit-growing community, and has a bright future, when the great Santa Clara valley will be densely populated as it surely will be. From its enviable location it must be the business point for a large and rich territory.

The town has a hotel, a number of thrifty business firms, Congregational, Episcopal and Catholic churches, a school-house and plenty of room for growth. The largest orange orchard in the county is found near the Niles station, where the rich, yellow fruit grows to perfection.

### WARM SPRINGS.

AT the extreme southern end of Alameda county and close to the line of Santa Clara county, lies the small village of Warm Springs. A mere hamlet at present, though thirty-eight years ago it was a noted watering place.



FORD BLOCK - NILES.

The water of the springs, which are located on the place now owned by J. W. Stanford, had a high reputation for their curative powers. In 1870 Senator Stanford bought the property and planted a large vineyard and orchard and built a big hotel, but soon after the Senator died before his plans could be carried out and the palatial structure still stands and its rooms are used as sleeping apartments for the men em-

ployed on the ranch. The time may yet come when Warm Springs will again be a noted watering place. The town is surrounded by several large vineyards and wine-making is the principal occupation.

### FAIR IRVINGTON.

WHO has not heard of Irvington? Noted for its delightful climate, rich soils, central location and its many pleasant homes and delightful people. It is situated in the eastern half of Washington township, on the line of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and is surrounded by one of the most fertile and beautiful valleys in the State.

The large vineyards in the near neighborhood of the town give employment to numbers of working men. Grain and hay are also raised in large quantities, while many acres



RESIDENCE - E. H. DYER - ALVARADO.

of land are given up to the raising of the sugar beet. Fine orchards abound, and the whole country is given up to the tillers of the soil.

### THE FORD BLOCK.

ENTERPRISE is one of the chief characteristics of W. H. Ford, one of Niles leading citizens and one of the progressive young men of the township. Ford's Hall stands as a monument to his go-ahead spirit. The upper

story is fitted as a complete public hall, with stage, banquet room and all up-to-date appurtenances. The entire building is lighted with gas. On the ground floor is a row of attractive stores that impress one with the air of prosperity which surrounds them. First in importance is the drug store of M. B. Sneden. A neater or better arranged store cannot be found in this section of the county. An exceptionally fine and complete stock of drugs, medicines, stationery and candies can always be found there. Mr. Sneden is a druggist of many years experience and understands the business thoroughly. Adjoining the Sneden Drug Store is the cobbler shop of J. Rodgers where many a man has had his sole saved and been prevented from undergoing the necessity of walking

on his uppers. Mr. Rodgers is a thorough mechanic and turns out first-class work at fair prices. Cahill & Schleuter occupy the end store of the row as a butcher shop. Niles Meat Market has a reputation all over the township for the excellence and variety of the meat handled. The firm goes on the theory that there is nothing too good for their numerous customers.



## CENTREVILLE.

**C**ENTREVILLE—How this beautiful little town received its name is quite problematical, it might have been named Centreville because it was midway between Alvarado and Mission San Jose. Centrally located it certainly is, for it is between the bay and the hills, the two lines of railway, and is near to the geographical center of the township. George A. Lloyd and Frank Pepper were the first settlers, they having pitched their tent on the spot now occupied by the Lowries. They remained only a short time, and left for a more populous locality.

Prior to the year 1850 John M. Horner built a Mormon chapel, which occupied the site of the United States Hotel. Here Mr. Horner held services, and within its walls was opened the first school, taught by a pedagogue named Kempster. It was subsequently used by Rev. W. W. Brier as a chapel, who preached the gospel each sabbath morning.

gone age. It is more—it is the representation both of the past and present. But it is the mission of the present of which we speak. There is not a great amount of business done in the town, but its people plod on year after year, making their living by honest toil in the numerous vineyards which dot the rolling country in all directions. About the old town is, perhaps, grown the finest grapes and olives in central California, and the people take a just pride in the fact. On Sabbath days Mission San Jose presents a bustling activity, for from the hills and valleys within a radius of many miles the devout church people come to worship in the pretty catholic church that lifts its lofty spire from the very center of the town. Several thriving business houses, a good school and its wineries serve to make up the town. The Sisters of the church conduct the Josephine Orphanage in a large brick structure lying above the town. Altogether Mission San Jose is as quiet and peaceable a town as can be



PRESBYTERIAN - CENTREVILLE.

CATHOLIC - NEWARK.

CONGREGATIONAL - NILES.

EPISCOPAL - CENTREVILLE.

PRESBYTERIAN - ALVARADO.

CONGREGATIONAL - MISSION.

CATHOLIC - CENTREVILLE.

CATHOLIC - NILES.

CHRISTIAN - IRVINGTON.

PRESBYTERIAN - NEWARK.

CATHOLIC - MISSION.

The first steps towards the formation of a town was the opening of a store by Captain Bond, in the year 1853, where he offered for sale a miscellaneous stock of goods suitable to that date. The house, like the stock, was quite limited, as the former was only a cabin ten by twelve feet in size, yet was the "largest" store in town. In 1854 Wm. Morgan opened a hotel on the present site of the Gregory House, while during the following year William Barry and a man named Wilson opened the second general merchandise store.

## MISSION SAN JOSE.

**H**OARY with more than a century of years, the quaint, old, restful town of Mission San Jose will forever take precedence of all other towns in this county—the "mother" in fact of all. It was the seat of christian civilization in Northern California. It is the landmark of a by-

found anywhere in the State, and an ideal spot for a town.

## NEWARK.

**N**EWARK is a strictly business town. The shops and factory whistles are the daily time piece of the few hundred people who dwell within its boundaries. Located on the narrow gauge road, it is conveniently close to San Francisco and Oakland, and with good railroad facilities its people can spend the day there and do their shopping. But not all of them do this, for Newark boasts of two well stocked stores, besides several other lines of business necessary for the needs of the small town. The shops of the railroad are located at Newark, and all repairing and building for this important line of road is done at these shops. The famous Carter car shops are located near the depot, and give employment to a large force of men.



**ALVARADO.**

THIS town, formerly known as New Haven, was once the county seat of Alameda county, and as a matter of course, the centre of population at that time. The town first started by the erection of two warehouses and a couple of small dwellings by Henry G. Smith, in one of which a small store was started. The town continued to grow and in the year 1853 was made the county seat of the newly created Alameda county. In the following year John M. Horner erected a grist mill, which did a thriving business under the able management of the late C. J. Stevens. Settlers commenced to arrive in numbers from this time on, and at the present date Alvarado is the most thrifty and wide-awake towns in the eastern half of the county. From wild wastes have grown beautiful homes, extensive farms and orchards, and the thrift and prosperity of its people is seen on every hand. The Alameda Sugar Factory, the Salt Works, a large Stove Foundry and the pumping station of the Oakland Water Co., all give employment to hundreds of men the greater part of the year, and they spend the most of their money in the town where it is earned, Alvarado enjoys the distinction of being a lively business place. The population of the town is about 900, and as new industries spring up it steadily increases.

**DECOTO.**

THIS is a small town on the line of the railroad between Haywards and Niles, and derived its name from Ezra Decoto, who originally owned all the land in its immediate vicinity. In 1867 an effort was made by the Decoto Land Company to make this place the future residence of the San Francisco capitalists. They purchased from E. Decoto two hundred and eighty-four acres and set out no less than twenty-seven thousand shade trees. Wide avenues were laid out and a town site on a large scale was surveyed. The trees grew, but the town as proposed never materialized. The first house was built in 1867 by the Decoto Bros., and a school district formed the following year owing to the exertions of E. Decoto and F. W. Meyer. The town has of late years commenced to grow and can now boast of a population in the neighborhood of 500. Decoto has a fine public school building, two stories in height, and three teachers are employed. Upon a hill overlooking the valley is being built the Masonic Widows and Orphans Home, a handsome brick and stone structure, which, when finished, will cost in the neighborhood of \$75,000. The advent of this institution has caused the little town to take on a new lease of life, and business is picking up. The main business at present is warehousing, where large quantities of grain is constantly stored.

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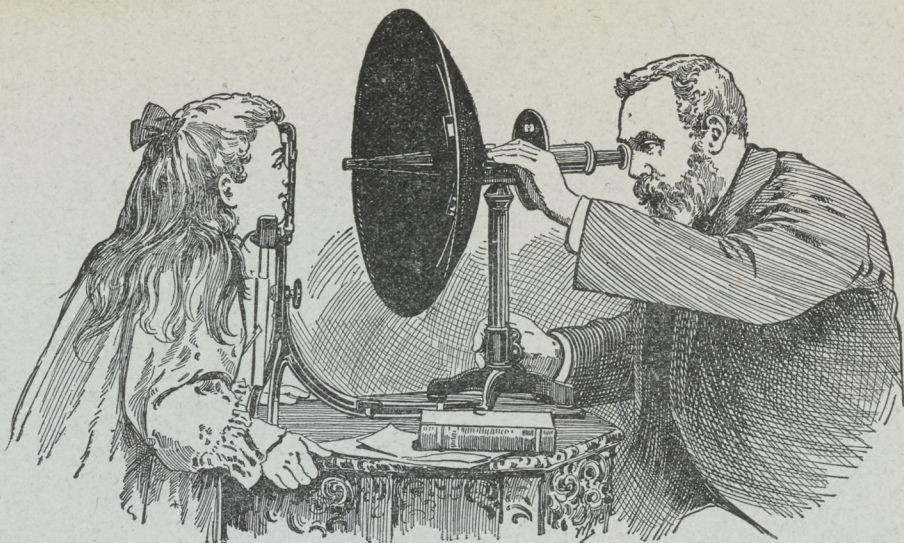
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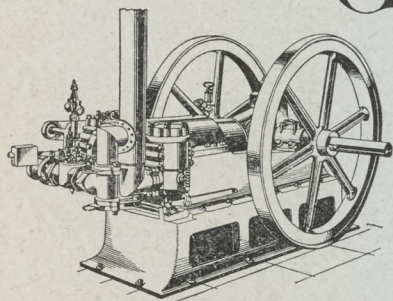
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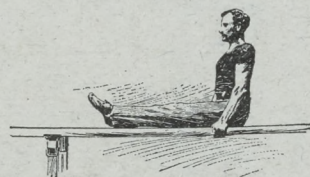
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